



CASES AS

HYDRO

The Gentle

CURIOUS AND INTERESTING

MOST ALARMING

DEATH

OF THE

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# CASES AND CURES

OF THE

# HYDROPHOBIA,

SELECTED FROM

*The Gentleman's Magazine:*

CONTAINING MANY

CURIOUS and INTERESTING ACCOUNTS

RELATIVE TO THAT

MOST ALARMING MALADY.

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## *Prefatory Advertisement.*

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THE Compiler has been induced to publish in a collective form, the following Papers, selected from the Gentleman's Magazine, from the earliest commencement of that work to the present period, with a view to enable the public to draw some useful conclusions from the numerous facts and singular accounts which they contain.

# EXTRACTS

FROM

## *The Gentleman's Magazine,*

ON CASES OF

### HYDROPHOBIA.

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#### ON MAD DOGS.

Mr. BAVIUS,

AS I was going through *St. James's Park* t'other Day, I found every Body alarmed by a mad Dog's passing by, which though pursued, could not be hindered from biting a Man, and several Dogs in his Way. I could not help reflecting on the Person's wretched Condition.

The Salt Water has often failed of late of curing this Disorder; of which a Gentleman in the Tower was a late instance, who was dipped a dozen Times, yet 7 Weeks after died in a bad Condition, though not deprived of Reason. Many such Accidents, no doubt, happen, more than we hear of. It must be allowed one of the most terrible evils in Life. and calls louder for a Remedy, than the greatest Inconvenience from the deepest Roads.

If we consider the doubtful Cure; the Diffusiveness of the Infection from one of these Animals to another; the Impossibility of guarding against the Evil; the shocking Catastrophe which is the Sequel of it, it's to be wondered that the Legislature has not applied a Remedy, however violent, to so transcendent an Evil. That the human Species should be converted, in a Manner, into the canine (for the Infection so transmutes the Blood, that it gives even the Voice of the Animal to the raving Wretch in his last Moments,) is so frightful a Reflection, that the fondness some People have for them, should not discourage the thinking Part of the World from destroying so pernicious a Race of Animals. Can the Pleasure of fondling these Creatures make amends for the Life of one of our Fellow Subjects? It would be difficult to persuade Country Gentlemen,



men, that the the whole Race of Hunting Dogs had better be cut off, than one wretched Example of this Kind be the Consequence. But these are but a Handful, to the numerous Progeny, which serve to no use, but to play the fool with; and half of which belong to nobody at all, but wander about the Streets, though more terrible, when in this roving Condition, than so many Lions or Tygers. Some weak People will object the Fidelity of these Animals; but can any Consideration balance the Danger of their running mad? from which none of the Breed is exempt; and perhaps the beloved Master will be the first to feel his Fury. A Civic Crown was decreed by the Ancients, as the reward for saving *one* Citizen in Battle; but what would the saving so many deserve?—And from what a Death!—How trifling a Fine would reduce the Number of these noxious Animals? And, if the whole Breed was exterminated, could the Loss stand in Competition with that of one rational Animal?

[March 6, 1735.]

MISOKUON.

**M**R. *Timberlin*, a Gardener, at *Chelsea*, died by the Bite of a mad Dog, this Month; also a Lad in *Suffolk*, though both several Times dipped in the Sea; therefore it may be of Service, on this Account, to mention, that there is a Powder of *Dr. Mead's*, sold by the Apothecaries, which is a Specifick against such Misfortunes, was never known to fail.—The following Powder, with the Use of the Cold Bath, Cold Spring, or River, is likewise recommended for the same Purpose, having lately cured *Mr. Wm. Goss*, of *Outwel*, in the Isle of *Ely*.

*R* (*Having washed the Blood from the Wound,*) of *Ash-coloured Ground Liver-wort*, reduced to Powder, 10 Drachms; of *Black Pepper*, beaten to Powder, 4 Drachms. Mix and divide them into 6 Parts, and take One every Morning in half a Pint of warm Milk.

[March, 1735.]

**W**ILLIAM JONES, a Farmer, at *Milton*, near *Woolbourn*, *Ledfordshire*, being last *Easter Day* bit in the Nose by a mad Dog, immediately took some of *Dr. Mead's* Powder, bathed in the Salt Water, and drank large quantities of it, and continued pretty well about 6 Weeks, though always a little indisposed at the Full of the Moon. After that Time the usual Symptoms came thick upon him, till it brought him into the most deplorable condition. He retained the Use of his intellects, except by intervals, to the last, and was so sensible of his approaching

approaching End, that he desired, but a few hours before he died, he might be chained down to prevent his biting or hurting any Body. At length, complaining of an excessive coldness of Body, and his Speech faltering, laid down and expired, seemingly, not with much Pain. He was not only bit in the Nose, but the Foam of the Dog went into his Mouth; which being so near the principal Parts, might possibly prevent his being cured by Dr. Mead's Remedy, so successful in Cases of this dreadful Malady.

[July, 1735.]

SIR,

[If you will please to publish the following Prescription, I am sure it will be of service to the Publick. In your account of Person dying by the Bite of a Mad Dog, (*see the preceding Case*) you mention Dr. Mead's Remedy. I have since waited on the Doctor, and he was pleased to tell me, that in the experience of above 30 Years, upon more than 500 Patients, he had never known it to fail of Success: He said, that the sooner the Medicine was taken after the Bite the better; though he had often found it to answer though not taken till a Fortnight, or even longer Time after it: He added, that he never made a Secret of theirs, readily gave me this Method in Writing, with leave to make it as publick as I would, and it is this, *viz.*

‘ Let the Patient be blooded in the Arm, nine or ten Ounces—Take of the Herb called in Latin, *Lichen cieus terrestris*, in English, *Ash-coloured Ground Liverwort*, cleaned, dried, and powdered, half an ounce,—Of black Pepper, powdered, two drachms,—

‘ Mix these well together, and divide the Powder into four Doses, one of which must be taken every Morning fasting, for four Mornings successively, in half a Pint of Cow's Milk warm: After these four Doses are taken, the patient must go into the cold Bath, or a cold Spring or River, every Morning fasting, for a Month, he must be dipped all over, but not stay in (with his Head above Water) longer than half a Minute, if the Water be very cold: after this he must go in three Times a Week for a Fortnight longer.—The *Lichen* is a very common Herb, and grows generally in sandy and barren Soils all over *England*. The right time to gather it is in the Month of *October* or *November*.

[August, 1735.]

Yours, *Philanthropus*.

Lamorian, Cornwall, Sept. 26, 1735

Mr. URBAN,

IN your Magazine for *August* last, you have obliged the Public with Dr. Mead's Receipt for the Bite of a MAD-DOG; no doubt it is a very good one, because Attested by the Experience of so ingenious and learned a Physician. Though I am no Professor of that Science, I shall presume to send you one that I have experienced for several Years, and on a vast Number of the Irrational Kind, viz. Bullocks, Horses, Dogs, &c. without ever once failing; and is as followeth:

Take *Primrose Roots*, *Star of the Earth*, *dry Mouse Ear*, and *green Mouse Ear*, of each a handful, cut small and well boiled in a Quart of Milk; add the black of one Crab's Claws finely powdered and sweeten it well with *Venice or London Treacle*. A Drench for one Dog, &c. to be repeated three Mornings successively fasting, the sooner the better, for after the Creature is once Mad, I believe there is no Cure.

Quære, whether proper for human Constitutions, if so, it is not quite so troublesome to comply with, as with the Doctor's. But this I shall leave to better Judgments, having never tried it on any rational Creature.

*Star of Earth* is generally found on old dry clay Ground, that has been seldom or never Ploughed; *dry Mouse Ear*, in old Hedges, or Walls. *green Mouse Ear* is an Herb that sometimes resembles the form of a Mouse's Ear, and is hairy on one side.

[October, 1735.]

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*Remarks on Dr. Mead's certain Cure for the Bite of a Mad Dog.*

THE *Hydrophoby* is a Disease, most surprising and terrible in its Symptoms, most difficult to comprehend, and the most dangerous in its Consequences; in short, to use *Celsus's* Words, *miserrimum est Genus Morbi*. A certain Method to prevent so great an Evil (for its Cure when the *Hydrophoby* comes on, we may despair ever to see) that we may assuredly rely upon the same, is certainly what every one would be glad to know, for we are all liable to an accident of this kind. We have had not long since published a certain Cure for the Bite of a Mad Dog, by a Gentleman deservedly at the head of *Physic*: But as that is proposed to the Common People in such a manner as every Person may be his own Doctor, and therefore nothing more may be thought requisite to be done, I have only this to ask in the name of the Public, Whether that be not deficient, upon account of no notice being taken of what is to be done to the Part wounded, or affected



ected with the *Bite* or *Slaver*. For as I apprehend, without special Regard being had to the Management of the Wound, all other Methods will be very uncertain, if at all to be depended upon: But if proper Care be taken of the Wound, the Method proposed by the great Dr. *Mead* seems unexceptionable. My Reasons for this Doubt occurred to me, upon perusing and examining the most considerable Authors both ancient and modern, who have taken any notice of the *Bite* of a *Mad Dog*; and all, even the most experienced, do particularly advise to draw out the Poison by Cupping, Suction, or attractive Medicines, &c. Or, if the Place be neither nervous nor tendinous, to cauterise the Wound with a hot Iron, and to apply digestives. I shall add, that it seems necessary to make Issues, or running Sores, upon, or very near the same part, and to continue them for some Months at least, or a Year. If the Wound be at the first well managed, there needs nothing to be feared; for this seems to be the principal part necessary to the Cure, and I never heard of this Method proving ineffectual; but it is generally neglected, and too much confidence placed in *Specifics*, which is the great Reason we hear of so many deplorable Instances of its Fatality. As to internal specifics, hitherto asserted to be infallible, I shall only observe they have had the common Fate of being supported by great authorities for a Time, and afterwards falling into disuse and oblivion. As anonymous, I could better deliver my thoughts with a strict Regard to Truth; but I hope I have carefully avoided any thing that can give offence to any person whatever: For I abhor the common practice of those that defame and write against particulars, no matter in how gross a manner, so that they can be unknown; which is what ought to be carefully avoided by a Christian; nay, a good Heathen would be ashamed of it. I shall conclude with what I have somewhere met with concerning *Galen*, worthy our imitation: *Qui nunquam ad Odium, neque ad Gratiam vicijus loquutus est; praeterea, qui nulli Haeresi, aut Sectae, vel parti addictus, & consecratus; sed verax, Veritatisque Amator, super extitit.*

May 10, 1737.

P. L.

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*Receipt for the Bite of a Mad Dog, communicated by a French Gentleman, who says it is infallible, and that he has seen it often try'd in France, even on Persons condemn'd to be smothered between Feather-Beds, and never knew it fail of Success.*

TAKE the Shells of Male Oysters, and calcine the white or inner Part of them; when thoroughly calcined, which may

be

be done either in an Oven or a Crucible, beat them to a fine Powder in a Mortar, and sift it through a fine Sieve, which done, put \* six Gros of the Powder into a Pint of right neat White Wine, and let the Patient drink it off, without taking any other Thing, of any kind whatever, until at least three Hours afterwards; and by all Means not to touch Butter, nor any thing that is Oily, during the Time of Cure. The next Day he must take four Gros of the same Powder in the aforesaid Quantity of Wine, and the third Day two Gros, still fasting three Hours afterwards, and then the Cure is compleated.

[December, 1737.]

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A Specific for the Bite of a Mad Dog.

**T**AKE of native and factitious Cinnabar, each 24 Grains, ground to a very fine Powder; of the strongest Musk 16 Grains: Rub these together till the Musk also becomes very fine, and give it all for a Dose in a small Tea-Cup full of Arrack or Brandy, as soon as possible after the Person is bit; and another Dose 30 Days after. But if a Person has had the Symptoms of Madness before he has had the Medicine, he must take two Doses in an Hour and half.—The above Secret was purchased at Tonquin, in the East Indies, where such Accidents are frequent, and has hitherto been infallible, not only as a Preservative soon after the Bite, but a certain Cure for the Hidrophoby Madness, &c. which appear in the last stage of the Disease.

[March, 1738.]

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**JAN.** 2, 1745. At Westrom in Kent, Mr. Charles Martin, a mal' er, died of the bite of a mad dog, in August last. He had used several methods of cure, and was supposed out of danger, till about a month ago, when some symptoms of the disorder appeared, which increased daily, till in spite of all the assistance imaginable, he miserably expired. This instance, with too many others, justifies the opinion of Boerhaave, that an infallible cure for the bite of a mad dog is as yet a secret.

\* Eight Gros make a French Ounce, which our Apothecaries know how to adjust to to their own.

*A View of the New Edition of a Mechanical Account of Poisons by  
Dr. MEAD.*

THE third essay treats of the *Mad Dog*. The learned author begins by observing, that the terrible effects of the poison from the bite of a Mad Dog, appear after so different a manner in different subjects, that the accounts given of them by authors being generally taken from single cases, are very different, and hardly consistent with one another, though they agree in the main symptom, called improperly the *hydrophobia*, or dread of water. The disorders with which this is attended, are related so variously, that they can scarcely be thought to belong to the same-kind of malády.

He therefore gives a history of this disease from observations made on a considerable number of patients, then enquires into the reasons why it shews itself with so much variety, and appears as it were disguised in some cases; and says, that the delirium's being sometimes maniacal, sometimes melancholic, proceeds from the different temperament and constitution of the patient, the effects of drunkenness are in one man good humour, mirth and joy, in another ill nature, malice and rage, &c. all from the same common cause; but that the hydrophobia is no part of the delirium, though thought to be so: 'for the patients, being feverish and thirsty, do always desire drink, as long as they can swallow it: at last they find they can neither eat nor drink, but drinking is the most difficult. Now the reason is this: This fever is of the *nervous* or *spasmodic* kind: all the nerves are drawn into cramps; particularly the muscles employed in deglutition are convulsed, their action is lost, and it is then impossible to get any thing down. To ask one in this condition to drink, is to desire him to choke himself; and when he has found this to be so, he dreads the sight of liquors offered to him as much as he would a knife presented to his throat, and strives to keep them from his mouth. Liquids in such a state are swallowed with more difficulty than solids: because the instruments of *deglutition* (which are, principally, the back part of the *tongue*, the hinder part of the *palate*, and the upper part of the *oesophagus*) can more effectually embrace and act with their joint force upon liquid substances. And besides this, the *epiglottis* (which must always be closely shut at this time) is more powerfully pressed down by a solid than by a liquid body. When therefore the united force of these parts is taken away by convulsions, some part of the liquids will slide down into the *aspera arteria*: upon which a suffocation must immediately



‘ diately follow. This disease therefore should have been called  
 ‘ Δυσκατάποσι, a difficulty in swallowing, rather than ὕδροφοβία,  
 ‘ dread of water.”

This reasoning he illustrates by several particulars. He observes, on the other hand, that in some cases there have been all the other symptoms, without the hydrophobia, of which he gives some instances, and therefore concludes that ‘ it is only  
 ‘ local convulsion, which, when the universal feverish affection  
 ‘ of the nervous system is come to the height, is very seldom  
 ‘ absent; but though it be, the spasms of all the other parts  
 ‘ may prove mortal. And because this fever of the spirits is  
 ‘ rarely so violent in any cases, except the bite of a Mad Dog,  
 ‘ as to produce a difficulty of swallowing, this symptom has been  
 ‘ thought to be peculiar to that poison.’

He also accounts for the venom’s lying so long latent, as many days, or sometimes 2 months, by supposing the saliva acts upon the nervous fluid as a ferment, which must affect different constitutions in a different space of time, and where the ferment is weak, and the constitution strong, no visible mischief may ensue till some accidental alteration in the body gives it additional force, external heat, as observed in the case of the tarantula promoting the delirium.

To this purpose he relates a case of a young man in Scotland who was bit by a mad dog, and married the same morning. He spent (as is usual) that whole day, till late in the night, in mirth, dancing and drinking: in the morning he was found in bed raving mad; his bride (horrible spectacle!) dead by his side, her belly torn open with his teeth, and her entrails twisted round her bloody hands.’

‘ The heat of the blood and spirits, from excess of exercise and wine, but more perhaps from the transports of passion, the first fury of conjugal embraces, had, no doubt in this calamity, given such advantage to the venom, that its power was raised to a greater degree in less than twenty-four hours than in common accidents of this kind it acquires in as many days.

After some other cases he proceeds to the cure, observing that after the hydrophobia the case is almost desperate. But before he goes to particulars, he mentions the most considerable medicines formerly used. Then he directs that care be first taken of the wounded part, and advises to enlarge the wound a little, and dress it with *ung. basilic. nig.* adding a small quantity of *merc. præcip. rub.* as a digestive; but though this should not be done, he thinks the following method will prove effectual\*.

\* In this place the doctor gives his reasons ‘ for taking no notice of any outward application to the wound, in a paper dispersed by him some time since, called ‘ certain cure for the bite of a mad dog.’



‘ Let the patient be blooded in the arm, nine or ten ounces. Take of the herb, called in Latin *Lichen cinereus terrestris*, in English *ash-coloured Ground Liverwort*, cleaned, dried, and powdered, half an ounce. Of black pepper powdered, two drachms. Mix these well together and divide the powder into four doses, one of which must be taken every morning, fasting, for four mornings successively, in half a pint of Cow’s milk, warm. After these four doses are taken, the patient must go into the cold bath, or a cold spring, or river, every morning fasting, for a month : he must be dip’t all over, but not stay in (with his head above water) longer than half a minute, if the water be very cold. After this he must go in three times a week for a fortnight longer.’

And to make the cure more effectual, he advises to the cold bath, the cold of which being greater than that of sea water, he thinks abundantly compensates for the want of its other qualities, and thinks this should be continued for a long time, once or twice dipping not being sufficient to have any good effect.

He gives some instances from the antients of curing this disorder after the hydrophobia appeared, by long submersion in fresh or salt water, which he calls drowning and recovering the patient by turns ; and takes occasion in this place to observe, that ‘ there are many accounts upon record of persons, who, after having been drowned many hours have been brought to life. This should certainly encourage the use of all means upon such accidents, especially since the trial is not difficult. The first step should be, to blow up the smoak of tobacco into the intestines : then to warm the body by shaking and rolling about, and rubbing with warm cloaths in bed, in a word, to put the blood into motion by all manner of ways ; and not to be discouraged, though no signs of life should be discovered after an hour or two spent in this good work, towards the latter end of which volatile spirits and salts may have a good effect. Neither should bleeding be omitted, when the blood is become warm enough to drop out of the veins.’

He concludes by saying, if submersion in the manner above practised, it should be begun as soon as the symptoms appear, and that it should rather be permitted than advised by physicians, though there is at least, more humanity in it than smothering a poor wretch between two feather beds, the practice of a neighbouring country (*France*) and sometimes of our own. However that the event of all methods after this symptom appears is uncertain, death being then frequently the physician’s last cure.

[May, 1745.]

**D**R. *WALL* mentions two persons cured by *musk* of a hydrophobia, from the bite of a mad dog. The dose 26 grains of *musk*; of *native cinnabar* and *fine vermillion* 24 grains each.  
[*March*, 1748.]

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**T**HE county of *Fife* has lately suffered by mad dogs, in their cows and swine. Dr. *Mead's* method has succeeded with a man and girl who were bitten; though the first had his throat affected before he took the remedy.  
[*September*, 1748]

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**M**R. *Rogerson*, attorney in *Gray's Inn*, bit 2 years ago by a mad dog, for which he had often bathed in salt water, and no symptoms appeared till 4 days before his death, when he was seized with a violent head-ach, and foaming at the mouth, till he expired in great agonies. See page 2.  
[*July*, 1749.]

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*A probable CURE for the Bite of a MAD DOG.*

Mr. URBAN,

**I** Remember to have read, either in some volume of your *Magazine*, or in the *Phil. Trans.* an account of a person who recovered from the bite of a mad dog, after the hydrophobia had come on, by resolutely persisting in repeated efforts to swallow some beer, which he at last effected, though he suffered the most violent convulsions in the attempt. Dr. *Mead* also, in his *Essay on Poisons*, observes that persons have been cured under the same circumstances, by being alternately drowned and recovered. It is, therefore, probable that the small quantity of water, which forced itself down their throats, during their submersion, removed the symptom, which prevented every other medical application. I am yet more confirmed in this opinion, by a passage in Mr. *Hughes's* *Natural History of Barbadoes*, (lately published in folio) which I have copied and sent you, that by inserting it in your *Mag.* which is more general than so splendid an edition is like to be, a better opportunity may be afforded of establishing or refuting my supposition by further experiments, which, I hope, will be communicated to you for that end.

*I am, &c.*

PHILANTHROPOS.

" Lu

“ In 1741 (after a very hot season) a great number of dogs run mad, and bit many cattle—I cannot here omit inserting a very lucky unexpected cure of a mad ewe, belonging to *Hurdiss Jordan*, Esq. in *St. Lucy's* parish. When found to be mad, she was confined; but as the usual symptoms, attending that terrible distemper, appeared more and more, and she growing to extreme madness, the owner determined to destroy her: but as she was a favourite beast, her doom was respite'd till he had tried the following experiment:

Having thrown her down upon a dunghill, he directed his slaves to keep, by force, her mouth open, whilst he poured, by degrees, down her throat a large pailful of cold water. In a short time after, she began to feed, and in about 24 hours after drank water as usual, fully recovered, and remained so.

As this is a matter of fact, sufficiently attested by that gentleman, and his family, I make no apology for inserting it: Indeed I should have been inexcusable, if I had omitted so extraordinary and surprising a circumstance; for who knows but indulgent providence may at last point out some remedy against so dreadful a calamity, and that the same method may be of service towards the cure of the human species.

It appears to me, at least, probable; for even nature, in instances not intirely dissimilar, points out something like this: Thus, when the stomach is overloaded, it generally makes many efforts to relieve itself by vomits, which when assisted by art, prove often an effectual remedy: And as we find, that the miserable patient, when afflicted with this disorder, hath an ardent desire of water, though the nature of the distemper is such, that it will not permit him to drink; therefore, if, in this case, a considerable quantity of water were forcibly poured down his throat, perhaps it would be of great service; for as the poison is of a very hot nature, which appears by the violent thirst it causes; it is more than probable, that such a quantity of cold water, mixing with the *virus*, would, at least, abate its force, till sudorifics, or other medicines, had time to expel, and throw off the poison by perspiration, or otherwise: That some poisons, of an hot nature, act less vigorously in cold, than when assisted with heat, is evident, from the more dangerous consequence of the bite of scorpions and vipers in *Italy*, and elsewhere, in an hot summer season, than in moderate cold weather.

As the *English* physicians are no less remarkable for their humanity, than skill and judgement, it is to be wished, that these ingenious gentlemen would (in pity even to the dumb creation, as well as to their fellow-creatures) try this experiment first on beasts; which, if successful, it might likewise be of service to the human species, under such deplorable circumstances. [May, 1750]



Mr. URBAN,

THE dreadful effects of bites from mad Animals, have frequently engaged my thoughts—but my attention has been afresh excited, and particularly determined to this melancholy subject, by an instance of the *Hydrophobia*, that, with terror, I beheld a few Days since, and with a surgeon united my endeavours to relieve, but in vain. The unhappy patient, in the last 24 hours of his life, took two doses of *Musk* and *Cinnabar*, lost above 50 ounces of blood, took *Turpeth Mineral*, and worked it off with water gruel strongly impregnated with *Nitre*; had two glysters with nitre and vinegar—took *Opiates*, after the vomiting, mixed with *Castor* and *Valerian*: his pulse before bleeding, was hard, full, and strong—but after losing 24 ounces of blood, more or less, became softer, and he seemed to swallow with less reluctance; but the pulse returned to its former hardness, though not so full.

To prevent, as much as possible, such catastrophes for the future, no human means seem so proper as a critical enquiry into the many boasted antidotes to this poison: that physicians, surgeons, &c. may be able to ascertain the comparative value of the several methods now in esteem: such as Dr. Mead's *Pulvis Antilyssus*—Dr. James's *Turpeth Mineral*—the *Musk* and *Cinnabar*, &c. This seems to be of the highest importance, that no unhappy man, by a partial trust in one, may slight the assistance of the other, and repose himself in fatal security till awaked out of his pleasing confidence by the irresistible harbinger of this merciless disease. I therefore take the opportunity of the extensive circulation of your magazine, earnestly to intreat all persons whatsoever, who have been witnesses of the good effects, and more especially of the inefficacy of these or any other antidotes, to communicate such instances for the public good. Dr. Mead, a gentleman of indisputable veracity, and unquestionable skill, is positive as to the success of his medicine.—Thus far all is well—deadly is the poison, but no less certain the antidote.—Nevertheless the censure of *Boerhaave* stands uncontradicted, and in full force against this medicine, amongst many other magnificent trifles. What stress is to be laid on his opinion, I don't pretend to say, nor upon *Quincy's*—the author of the *Pharmacopœia Informatæ*—or the writer of *Boerhaave's* life, who all express their diffidence of it. Dr. James in his dispensatory, says, he never yet knew it experienced in man, but where other methods have been tried at the same time; so that it was not possible to know to which to ascribe the cure, but has known it given to dogs, and not often with success. He has also been informed, that a man near *Smithfield*—another



—another at *Northampton*—another at *Bury*, took this medicine, from the first, with the utmost regularity, and yet all ended mad.

When the symptoms are come on, there is a greater concurrence in the method as well as prognostic. *Boerhaave*, *Mead*, and *Shaw*, direct profuse bleeding, and cooling medicines, and the method is justified by two instances of cure,

*Phil. Tran.* under the care of Drs. *Hartley*, *Sandys*, *Petre*, and other Physicians of *St. George's* hospital. To these cases I prefer the cures, not being positive as to the circumstances. The Academy of sciences also exhibit a case or more cured by immersion in water, which *Boerhaave* also recommends. It would be useful to know what instances there are of ill effects from saliva, or touching the blood, &c.

Your constant reader,

F.

[*July*, 1750.]

MR. URBAN,

Have treated several persons who have been bit by mad dogs in the following manner, and have the pleasure of assuring you they all remain well. 'I ordered a dose of Dr. *Mead's Pulvis filissus* to be taken every morning and evening, for 4 or more days successively, and some *mercurial ointment* to be rubbed about the part bit every day, for a fortnight or more'. And if the person was *plethorick*, a certain quantity of blood was taken away: I have not been called to any one mad in consequence of the bite, but if I should, unless an infallible method of cure be before then discovered, I would first try *bleeding*, and frequent draughts of *beer* and *water* (from which I have seen surprizingly good effects in some *spasmodic* affections). If the person could not swallow, I would then advise the same mixture to be used *warm* in a *glyster*, *pediluvium*, and a *fomentation to the stomach and head* *thly shaved*; all which should be repeated every third or fourth day.

In your last magazine, p. 318, B. a reference is made to the *Philosophical Transactions*, Art. IV. N°. 475. which contains the method of treating a person who became mad from the bite of a dog, by Dr. *Charles Peters*, &c.—The poor fellow happily recovered; and the same process may possibly relieve others. But I wish the Dr. had not said "the symptoms becoming highly inflammatory (his pulse being hard, his flesh hot, his head grievously pain'd, his blood, sisy, and his urine flammous, the method of cure in inflammatory cases was taken, *with this difference only, that, as he had passed several days without stools,*"

" he

" *he was directed to take an enema immediately*": Since some may be apt to think from this that *enemas* are *not proper* in inflammatory fevers, even though there should be a *costiveness*; whereas daily experience shows them to be *very serviceable*.—Moreover: The boles prescribed in this case, consisting of *nitre*, *mithridate*, and the *thebaic extract*, can't but *increase* the symptoms in highly inflammatory fevers; though *nitre* alone will frequently relieve to admiration.—Farther, this man was *blooded 3 times*, and had 6 *blisters* applied. Such practice is, I know, common, with some, in inflammatory fevers: But to me it appears *irrational*; and from it I have seen *fatal* effects; when I have *reason* to think that had the *blisters* been *omitted*, and *cooling attenuants* given, the so *frequent bleeding* had not been *thought necessary*, and the patient had *recovered*.

I shall be glad if what I have now sent you prove at all useful, And if I am wrong in any thing, I hope some one of your readers will think himself *in duty bound* to endeavour to set me right.—No one is more willing to be convinced of an error than

Yours, &c.

Royston.

L. W.

[August, 1750.]

Mr. URBAN,

I Am obliged to you for inserting my letter on the hydrophobia, p. 318, and for that of your correspondent at Royston, whom I thank for his speedy communication of the happy effects resulting from a combination of the pulvis antilyssus and mercuria unction, to which may, without inconvenience, the *Tonquines* medicine be added—but not cold bathing, except at due intervals—The many persons since carried off by this terrible calamity shew the importance of investigating an efficacious medicine or method of cure, at least strictly to examine all the methods that have been recommended, and to establish that which is best: For this purpose I shall trouble you again. In the meantime, though my suffrage can be of no consequence, I cannot forbear adding it to the many you have received in favour of the *Rambler*, as also of the *Biographical Memoirs*, which you sometimes insert, nor can I omit this opportunity of testifying the pleasure I find in the noble and animated perseverance of the *Candid Disquisitions*. May the authors receive all the encouragement they deserve, and more than they desire, and may your Collection flourish so long as it dispels darkness and prejudices—so long as it diffuses light and knowledge.

Yours,

[December, 1750.]

SINCE

*Charles Town, South America, Nov. 10.*

SINCE the commencement of this year, a kind of madness hath appeared among the dogs in the country, so that most of them have been killed; and lately some have been mad in this town. It is not remembered, that there ever was a mad dog seen before in this province. I do not hear that they have yet bitten any person; but as soon as their madness appears, they attack every dog they see, which are (within a few hours after being bit) in the same condition: as it began in the country, I suppose this madness to proceed from these creatures feeding on the infected carcasses of dead cattle, as no other cause appears. The mad dogs (if not killed) die in two or three days, and some hogs have been seized in like manner.

[*January, 1751.*]

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*A Never failing Receipt for the Cure of a Mad Dog.*

TAKE dwarf-box, ash-coloured liverwort, wild perriwinkle, and wild trefoil (the best time for laying in a stock of the latter is June) of each an equal quantity. When they have lain by to sufficiently dried, rub them, and sift them into a fine powder. Men give three quarters of an ounce in a pint of new milk, fasting to either man or dog; let it be repeated for three mornings, the sooner the better after the bite.

[*February, 1751.*]

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Mr. URBAN,

AS many have been the dreadful and deplorable sufferings of unfortunate persons by the bites of mad dogs, and other vicious animals, numerous attempts have laudably been made to discover a remedy for the same, but hitherto seemingly without success. 'Tis therefore the duty of every one to endeavour to find out something that may be of service to the unhappy sufferers. To which end having employed my thoughts for some time, I hope I have discovered a method by cupping, which, when used, may be presumed cannot fail of success; and may be performed as followeth, viz. As soon as possible after the disaster has happened, take a cupping glass, rarefy the air therein by the flame of a lamp, torch, candle, paper, or other combustibles; then applying it to the wound, the atmosphere, by its violent pressure on all parts of the flesh around the glass and sore, will not only force part of it into the glass, but will actually press out, drive before it, and expel the blood, with the venomous particles lurking therein, whereby all bad consequences



sequences will unavoidably be prevented, and the unfortunate person freed from danger, which otherwise must have befallen him by the direful accident.

And in case a cupping-glass is not to be had, the operation may be performed by a cyder glass, chocolate cup, pepper box, or other tight domestic implement. And, that on such melancholy occasions materials may not be wanting, I propose, that all physicians, surgeons, apothecaries, and other practitioners in physick, together with the incumbents of the several parishes throughout the kingdom, be well provided with a number of the said cupping glasses, to be always ready to relieve the distressed. And that help may never be wanting, and as euppung glasses 'tis said may be bought for so small a price as threepence each, I farther propose, that every family throughout the nation be provided with one of them at least; which if timely applied, 'tis thought to be scarcely possible to fail in performing a cure, and to save the lives of many, for the good of their families, and benefit of the publick.

[\*Did we not know the author, we should be apt to think his profession was glass-making. The bole of a tobacco-pipe may be applied also on occasions, and a strong suction made at the small end.]

[May, 1751.]

*Some Account of the many Methods of Cure that have been prescribed for the Bite of a Mad Dog.*

I Am obliged to you for giving the sentiments of my last letter on the *hydrophobia*, Vol. xx. p. 318. A. The opportunity of so extensive a circulation as your book, induces me to solicit a place for the following.

For the dreadful malady produced by the bite of a mad dog, many remedies have been prescribed by persons of great eminence, with so much assurance of success, founded upon repeated experiments, that the disease has not of late been regarded as a proper object of study, nor the discovery of any other remedy attempted. It is therefore of great importance to inform the public, that all those remedies have frequently failed, and to re-call the attention of the faculty to a subject, which is far from having been exhausted, and which is without question of the highest importance: *Mead* is in one story, *Boerhave* in another, *James* in the third. No physician has disputed the good effects of *turpeth mineral*, nor has the college withdrawn their approbation from Dr. *Mead's pulvis antalyssus*. Great is the renown of the *Tonquinese* medicine; but though its efficacy in  
curing



During the hiccups is ascertained by Dr. Wall, and Mr. Reid from various instances. See vol. 18. p. 131. Yet as to prevention or cure of the *hydrophobia* the account is not satisfactory, Dr. Andree successfully prescribed scarification of the wound, mercurial applications, from the example of Desault, cold bathing, alexipharmics, and mercurials internally, chiefly calomel. That calomel purges will not do of themselves, we have a melancholy instance in the *Edinburgh Medical Essays*, of a youth who was on a course of calomel purges for a gonorrhœa, previous to his fatal *hydrophobia*. Your correspondent at Royston, vol. xx. p. 354, has communicated the happy effects of a combination of the *pulvis antilyssus* and mercurial unction, to which, without inconvenience, the *Tonquinese* medicine may be added; cold bathing is not so compatible, except at due intervals.

Disinal are the accounts of this calamity in your *Mag.* of *Septemb.* vol. xx. p. 429; the death of a woolcomber at *Derby*, fatally infected by taking off the skin of a mad dog, and casually putting the knife to his mouth; a weaver in *Spitalfields*, six days after the bite; with a patient in *St. Bartholomew's* hospital. As this last unhappy man was coachman to Mr. Potts, surgeon to the hospital, he could not fail of the united endeavours of the physicians and surgeons therein employed, an assistance which few private persons can hope to have. In *Oct.* ib. we have the death of *Charles Isaacs* of *Hackney*, six months after the bite. Shall the medicine used in any of all these cases still continue in credit? The unhappy gentleman, who died merely of the apprehension of dog's being mad (as mentioned lately in the papers) could hardly be ignorant of the fame of these several specifics. Could not Dr. Mead's positive assurances induce him to confide in a method so easily complied with? The doctor says, "I can safely affirm that whether any outward application was made or not, I have never known this method fail of success, where it has been followed before the *hydrophobia* began, although in the course of about thirty years (besides the experience made by others both in town and country) I have used it a thousand times. I have often wished that I knew so certain a remedy in any other disease." And further "Though it is best to begin the method as soon after the accident as it can be done, yet when it has been neglected, even till a day or two before the calamity be expected (as was judged from the beginning anxiety, and oppression of the spirits) the success has been the same."

As to the anxiety and oppression of the spirits, they are equivocal symptoms, since the horror of the impending danger is cause adequate to the production of them: witness the gentleman abovementioned. *Ph. Trans.* No. 444, Dr. Mortimer says; "It

is now hoped that certain cures are discovered for the only two sorts of venomous bites of animals to which the happy soil of *Great Britain* exposes its inhabitants" from experiments of Mess. *Hunauld* and *Grossroy*. But why does Dr. *Mortimer* betray his diffidence by proposing an addition of the *Lychnis viscosa flore muscoso* on the testimony of Sir *Robert Moray*, and a substitution of bathing in warm water; instead of cold according to Dr. *Mead's* direction? (for which he has been severely chastised by the doctor); if he was convinced of the certainty of the other method, it was ill advised to make any alteration.

Dr. *Mortimer* quotes a letter of *Oldenburg* secretary to the *Royal Society*, wherein the *Lichen* is mentioned as exceedingly efficacious in curing dogs bitten by mad dogs; to which he adds the following passage from the *journal* of the *society*, supposing it to be what *Oldenburgh* hints at in his letter, Nov. 16, 1671. "Sir *Roger Moray* exhibited a certain plant (which Mr. *Ray* calls *lichen terrestris cinereus*) said by him to be good to cure dogs bitten by mad dogs, and his royal highness having caused it to be given to a whole kennel of dogs bitten by a mad one, they were all cured.

Dr. *Mead* also gives us *Morison's* testimony; viz. *Lichen cinereus terrestris adversus morsum canis rabidi egregium est medicamentum*. *Ray* says, *lichen cin. terr. cum aequali quantitate piperis est remedium infallibile ad præcavendum rabiem in homine ac jumento*.

I hope Dr. *Short*, in his *Med. Britan.* has been more accurate than the professed Botanists, and given us the encomium of the *lichen* from the faithful records of experiment. *Ph. Trans.* No. 237, Sir *H. Sloane* published the *lichen* as a secret medicine in the family of Mr. *Dampier*; as this was 26 years after it had been entered in the *Society journal*, it only proves how little notice general practice took of it, and it was about 18 years more before Dr. *Mead* laid any stress upon it, though in the interval he wrote his famous treatise upon poisons.

*Ph. Trans.* No. 448, Mr. *Fuller* says, he had used the *lichen cin. terr.* with black pepper upon dogs, and always with success; and some years before a mad dog or cat (he forgets which) had bitten some children and their mother at *Battle*; and mixing the *lichen*, according to *Dampier's* direction, they all took it, as also a dog or two that had been bit, and none of them had any bad effects from the bite. *Christmas 1737*, a neighbour's servant going to search whether a dog, suspected to be mad, had been wormed (which dog died mad in three or four days after) was bit very much in both his hands: he went to a person who had such success in using the *lichen* with pepper for the bite of a mad dog, as to be applied to far and near, who assured Mr. *Fuller* he would

ould venture his life, that he cured any man or animal, that was brought to him within three or four days after the bite. The servant took the medicine every day, about ten or eleven o'clock; he complained of a violent heat and pain in his head, which Mr. *Fuller* suspected was the effect of the bite, and not the medicine; but after he had taken it for such a stated number of days he grew better, and continued well ever after. He had tied his fingers with shoemakers' ends, and they were all very much inflamed and very sore. Mr. *Fuller* made him take them off, and all his plaisters, and wash his hands with salt and water, and in a fortnight's time they were well. This testimony is point blank for the medicine, exclusive of cold bathing.

It is now time to produce reasons not against taking of this medicine, and using the cold bath, but against an entire confidence in it without prudent combination of the other methods, viz. musk, and cinnabar mercurials, according to the method of *Desault*.

Dr. *James* in his *Dispensatory*, on the *Pulvis antilyssus*, says, he never yet knew it experienced in man, but where other methods have been tried at the same time, so that it was not possible to know to which to ascribe the cure; but has known it given to dogs, and not often with success. He has also been informed, that a man near *Smithfield*, another man at *Northampton*, another at *Bury*, took this medicine from the first with the utmost regularity, and yet all died mad.

*Ph. Trans.* No. 445. Mr. *Nourse*, a surgeon, relates the case of *Stephen Ballass*, aged 16, bit in *June* 1735, by a mad dog through the nail of his right thumb. Mr. *Nourse* being immediately called, proposed to make a ligature above, and cauterise the wounded part; but that not being complied with, he desired Mr. *Gerrum* the apothecary, to make up the remedy mentioned by *Dampier*, *Ph. Trans.* No. 443. *lich. cin. terr. pip. g. ana. 3i. f. pulv.* Of this powder the lad took a dram within an hour after he was bit, and repeated it next morning before he set out for *Gravesend*, and was dipt in the salt water every day, during which time he repeated the medicine morning and evening, and continued so to do for forty days, yet died nineteen months after, of the *hydrophobia*.

As for the patient so happily recovered by the Drs. *Hartley* and *Ands*, with the loss of 120 ounces of blood, he took the powder but three mornings; but he took half an ounce each time, then bathed but three times, nor did he continue the abstemious diet prescribed him above five weeks, and the symptoms came upon him in about six weeks.



As for the patient cured in St. George's Hospital, there does not appear to have been any omission to which the failing of the *pulvis antilyssus* could be attributed.

As these two cases are of so late date, so circumstantial, so rationally conducted, the doctors concerned so well known, they ought to be in the hands of every practitioner in the universe. And certainly it would become the dignity of the royal college of physicians to make the most scrupulous enquiry into the merit of every remedy however recommended, before they receive it into the *pharmacopœia*, and prefix titles to them expressing their particular virtues. To conclude this account, I shall only express my wishes that it may appear to be so badly drawn up, as to excite any abler person to give a better.

[January, 1752.]

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MR. URBAN,

AN article of News in one of our daily papers, mentioning the death of one or two persons bit by a mad dog, and being smother'd to prevent greater mischief, induces me to submit the following reflections to the serious consideration of all who wish well to the public.

In any other case than this, it might seem rash to propose a doubtfull and dangerous remedy; but in this any experiment is allowable that carries with it the least appearance of success; since, if it be better to try a doubtful remedy than none at all, it is certainly much more so to try a doubtfull remedy rather than to consign the unhappy wretch to certain destruction. Instead, therefore, of smothering, which to reflect for a moment is too shocking to humanity, I would propose the following process:

When the symptoms of an incurable madness from the bite of any creature appear, let the party be taken into the open air, and a vein opened in the arm; let it run freely so long as the patient is able to stand, and when he faints or sinks thro' want of strength, bind up the orifice; strip the patient, and place him in a proper vessel prepared before-hand so as that he may sit or lie up to his chin in warm water, in which a few handfuls of any aromatic herbs have been infused.

Let the patient continue in this situation till his strength is a little recruited: try him with liquids; if he still has the same dislike, repeat the bleeding to the same measure, that is, so long as the patient can stand: when he faints again, bind up the orifice, put him again into the *Bath*; try to get down some nourishment; apply flannels wrung out of wine warm'd with

spices



ices to his arms and hands, and rub his head and temples with vinegar and wine mix'd.

It will perhaps be objected to this process, that it is exposing the patient to the utmost danger from the loss of blood. Allow this objection its full force, and I believe any man would rather see his friend deprived of life in this, the more easy manner, than by suffocation betwixt two feather beds. *Seneca's* choice is well known.

Wherefore if certain death was to be the consequence of this experiment, the manner of dying is much less shocking; and of course this method of taking a-way life, where necessity compels, is more eligible. In the next place, there are not wanting some instances, which render it very probable that copious bleeding, especially when joined with alternate warm bathing, may even in some desperate cases prove successful. An experiment so interesting to humanity, it is hoped, will merit the attention of all who are so unhappy as to meet with occasions for putting it in practice; and it is also hoped, that the result of every such experiment, will be communicated to the public.

[*July, 1752*]

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SEVERAL dogs having been mad this month, particularly about St. James's, occasioned orders to shoot those that appeared there; and in some county towns, the justices have given like orders.

[*August, 1752*]

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*Extract of a Letter from a Correspondent at Derby, dated Aug. 29.*

[N confirmation of the process for the cure of that terrible symptom of madness, the *hydrophobia*, so rationally and humanely communicated in your *July* book, I have the pleasure to send you an account of one instance of its success. Having been lately in the Peak, near *Chapel in Frith*, was credibly informed, that a man near that place was perfectly cured of an *hydrophobia*, occasioned by the bite of a mad dog, by bleeding only. He was very raving when the physician came to him, who ordered him to be bled till he fainted, which made him quite calm and sensible, and when the raving returned the bleeding was repeated, which was done several times, till he was quite cured, and he lived several years after it.

[*September, 1752.*]

*An*

*An Account of a Medicine given to prevent Infection from the Bite of  
a Mad Dog.*

*From Faulkner's Dublin Journal, Sept. 16.*

**I**N *May*, 1741, a mad dog was all night shut up amongst many couple of hounds, and in the morning was, by an ignorant boy, coupled to five hounds one after another, which he bit, but upon administering the undermentioned medicine, not one of them ran mad.

At many different times within these last three years, when a mad dog, amongst other dogs, bit them promiscuously, the medicine has been given to all with success.

One *June* 13 last, a dog ran mad amongst a large kennel of hounds, but as he was not seen to bite any dog, nor supposed, (from a stiffness in the jaws) able to bite, no care was taken to prevent the distemper from spreading, until the 22d, when another dog that had been all night in the kennel amongst twenty couple of the hounds, was found mad besides some that he probably bit in the night: he was, at opening the kennel door in the morning, seen to bite two bitches and two sucking puppies, which two last he tore much. Forty-four pareels of the medicines were sent for to *Drogheda*, and distributed amongst the hounds, and other kinds of dogs, all of which continue well, *Sept.* 3, 1751. The puppies had only a fifth part of the proportion given to a grown hound.

The Medicine was this: ‘Castor and assafoetida, each half an ounce; Lignum Rhodium, four scruples; all powdered separately, then mixed, and a ninth part of this mixture, (being little more than a dram) made into a small ball with butter, and given to the dog on an empty stomach, night and morning, till he had taken the nine parts. When a dog does not take them willingly, they are easily put down his throat.’

*N.B.* A gentleman affirms, that he cured a dog that had the madness upon him. Another gentleman of credit avers, that together with a very moderate use of bleeding, and the cold bath, he cured a person that had symptoms of madness, having given him the medicine as (is supposed) in some liquid. Whether these gentlemen mistook the distemper, will probably, be cleared up by future experiments; but it is certain, that the medicine has been successfully given to dogs.

[*September*, 1752.]

In *Essay on the HYDROPHOBIA, in which is prefixed the Case of a Person who was bitten by a Mad Dog, had the Hydrophobia, and was happily cured.* By CHRIS. NUGENT, M.D. in Bath.

ELIZ. BRYANT, a servant maid, 22 years old, of a good habit, sanguine and phlegmatic, and in the main healthy, was on *June 24, 1751*, bitten by a mad dog, on the third finger of her right hand, near the joint next the nail, and on the back of the same hand; the wound on the finger bled, but the other did not, though the skin was pinched through, and both soon healed without application.

The dog refused food, and the next day died, and another dog, who had licked up some meat, which he had taken into his mouth, was killed mad three weeks afterwards.

About this time the maid who had within the last week lost her colour and her appetite, had sick fits and restless nights, with sudden fits of alternate and unusual indolence and activity, was sent to the sea, where she was dipped till she could bear it no longer. Upon her return home, she had catchings in her arms and hands; terrifying dreams of dogs and water, could not bear a dog near, and if she heard them bark, would turn pale and tremble, she was therefore blooded in the right arm. On *July 6*, she began to take the *pulvis antilyssus*, as directed by Dr. Mead, and continued it to four doses. On the 20th she was sent to the cold bath, and used it four mornings successively; she then complained of a numbness and pain in the same arm and shoulder, on which the musk and cinnaber powders, called Sir *George Cobb's* medicine, were ordered, and she took them two nights; by these she was so much relieved, that she said she was well, and was advised to repeat the cold bathing, but did not, because the catamenia were come on.

This treatment, however, though it was the most diligent and regular application of the best remedies hitherto known, proved ineffectual, and two days after the last bathing, the patient was attacked with the hydrophobia.

*July 27.* Five hours after the full of the moon, she was all at once seized with an acute pain in her finger, which proceeded to her shoulder, and thence to her throat, where it produced as she imagined a large substance, which she thought would have strangled her. From this time she could not bear the sight of water, nor the sound of its falling from a pump in the yard; her terror of dogs increased, her voice was soon lost, and her pain, which was in successive shootings, was more intense and frequent, in proportion as dogs and water were within her hearing.



ing or sight ; when this happened, her pain was almost continual, and intolerable, with suffocation, short breathing, dizziness, violent risings at her stomach, breast, and throat, and strong catchings at her fingers and arms, and other parts, as if she was going into general convulsions, which she would probably have done, if dogs or water had been kept near her long together.

Upon this sudden and violent attack, the surgeon under whose direction she had been, gave her a little water and spirits of hartshorn, which she instantly threw back with some frothed phlegm. Some women who stood by, insisting that her disorder was hysterics, the surgeon without the patient's knowledge, had a bason of water brought in, as if by chance ; but the moment she saw it, she shrieked out vehemently, tossed her head back with great violence, and fell into an agony. The Dr. was then sent for, he found her in full possession of her understanding, but struggling in vain to express herself by words ; her countenance was a little flushed ; her look eager, scared and fierce ; her pulse easy, bold and regular ; her tongue moist and clean, and she had no thirst. A bason of water was again introduced, and threw her into the same agony.—She was bled to 15 ounces ; Cobb's powders, made into a bolus, with honey, were ordered every three hours, with a pill of two grains of pure opium, to begin immediately, and continue till rest could be procured ; and a plaister of galbanum, and half an ounce of the *thebaic* extract was applied to her throat.

In the evening having been restless, in pain, and sometimes wholly intractable the greater part of the day ; she, after great persuasion, swallowed three spoonfuls of broth, with the utmost difficulty ; her blood looked well.

The difficulty in swallowing, she afterwards said, did not proceed from any pain attending the action, but the rising of something in her throat ; like the *globus hystericus*.

The powder and opium continued. The hand and arm chafed with warm sallad oil several times a day.

*Sunday, 28.* Only two papers of powder, and two pills, taken in the night, the last of which she brought up, was sick at her stomach, slept none, but lay quiet ; her skin somewhat moist, and her voice a little recovered ; her pain and difficulty of swallowing little better, her pulse stronger and quicker ; no stool since *Friday*—Bled again to 20 ounces : a clyster with antimonial wine ; powders, pill, and chafing, repeated.

*Sunday evening,* swallowed better, had got down a pint of liquids since morning, her urine, small in quantity, but good ; no sleep.—Clyster no effect, therefore repeated.

*Monday 29.* Clyster had taken no effect ; better in the main, had sweated in the night, but not slept ; her swallowing better ; drank



drank a quart, very thirsty; pulse full.—Bled to 12 ounces; blaster, with only two drams of extract, and chafing repeated; powders continued; barley water with nitre directed for her thirst.

*Monday* evening, every way better; pain gone; could drink a pint at a draught, but still dreaded dogs and water.—Powders continued; opium omitted.—She had been again sick at her stomach, occasioned by her having taken cold, the nitre was therefore laid aside.

By this treatment, lessening the quantity of the medicine as the symptoms abated, she gradually recovered, till venturing to try how she could bear to look upon water, the sight of it threw her back, and her symptoms returned: She was, however, again recovered, and about the 16th having regained her appetite, strength, and spirits, and surmounted her aversion to dogs and water, she went about her business as usual, but she again relapsed, upon being alarmed and terrified to a great degree, by the stupidity, or malice, of two wretches, who assured her that, though she thought herself well, yet it was impossible she should recover, and that her apparent amendment was but a lightening before death.

She was again recovered by the same treatment, and has continued in perfect health ever since.

The Dr's reasoning upon this case tends to shew. That poison operates not by circulating with the blood or animal spirits, but by producing spasms upon the nerves, which are communicated in degrees from fibre to fibre, without apparent injury, till the nerves that govern some eminent viscera begin to be affected: To support this hypothesis, he observes, that, if the animal spirits were tainted in any part, they would suddenly be all tainted, the injury would not be slow and partial, but sudden and universal: That different foreign agents affect different parts, as mercury, the mouth and salival glands; fumes of lead, the bowels; the virus of the small pox, the skin; the other pox, the nose and palate, and cantharides, the neck of the bladder; that different spasms may be communicated by different objects without contact. As a string of an instrument will vibrate at the sound of a corresponding string. Hysterics and unreasonable panics have been thus communicated, and the agitations of enthusiasts, in spite of all efforts to the contrary: a person yawning communicates that peculiar convulsion and no other, and the sight of water produces the hydrophobia in persons bitten by a mad dog. Upon this principal, the author accounts for the production of the small pox, by the dread of it.

That the hydrophobia is not inflammatory at the beginning, but simply spasmodic, like hysterics and worms: That it appears

probable, at least, that it is a species of mania, attended with certain alienations of mind and disorders of body peculiar to itself, all proceeding from irregular spasms, and spasmodic constrictions of some particular parts of the nervous system. He infers.

That the first aim should be to quiet the agitations, release the strictures, and remove the spasm.

That bathing in cold water is therefore bad; it is irritating the mania by presenting the particular object of terror, and naturally tends to increase the disorder, whether spasmodic or inflammatory, for in no other inflammation was it ever advised, being known to fix them beyond possibility of cure. So that, upon the whole, neither bleeding, vomiting, purging, clyster, nor venesection, are to be practised in the hydrophobia, otherwise than *pro re nata*, with a perpetual exclusion of all attempts to cure it by water.

But the intention of cure being thus traced, those medicines which may probably effect it, are too well known to be further described.

The *musk* and *cinnabar*, according to Sir John Cobb's directions, so often mentioned in this case, is to be made thus:

*Take native and factitious cinnabar, of each 24 grains; musk (which ought to be very good) 16 grains: Let them be finely powdered, and mixed up into a bolus with a little honey; or, (because honey is sometimes disagreeable) with syrup of saffron, of maiden-hair, or almost any other syrup you please.*

[July, 1753.]

MR. URBAN,

AS I constantly take your Magazine, it gives me no little pleasure to see that you give the publick whatever comes to your knowledge, which you judge may be of service to mankind; amongst many other acceptable pieces several essays upon the *Hydrophobia*, with receipts for its cure, none of which I think are infallible or without great hazard. One Mr. Parker, a gentleman of considerable fortune near Colne, in Lancashire, has a certain and speedy remedy for that dreadful distemper, which I never heard to fail except once, which failure was occasioned by the person's own folly, who would not be kept from strong liquors, although strictly charged to refrain from them. There has been a great many hundreds cured by him, for which he takes no more than half a crown; I never heard he gave above one dose, which always does the business; every patient

obliged to go to him, for he gives it with his own hands, and will send it to nobody whatever: indeed for a dog, he will make it up with a kind of paste; for I myself have had occasion to send to him for it for a favorite dog, and it answered intirely.

Now, Mr. *Urban*, could the gentleman be persuaded to so generous as to give the secret to the publick, it would be of universal service to mankind, or if the legislature would purchase it for the publick, I am persuaded it would be of infinite more benefit to the world than Mrs. *Stephens's* famous medicine for the stone and gravel. I am told that another gentleman that lives at *Ormskirk* in *Lancashire* gave the receipt to Mr. *Parker's* father, who was not to part with it without his consent, I wish, Sir, you would, from this information, in your persuasive way, try to induce Mr. *Parker*, generously to give it to the publick, or the legislature to purchase it.

M.

[We agree with our correspondent, that a specific cure of this dreadful malady ought to be purchased, and perhaps it might be very difficult to raise a contribution for that purpose, since every man is secure from being sometime bit by one of the innumerable dogs which are kept among us for pleasure or convenience; every man ought therefore to pay a little for a preventive from danger, to which every man is exposed. But do not danger fright us into credulity, let us not call every thing a specific which has gained an accidental reputation, or of which success is only related in general terms. The hydrophobia being produced, not by a gradual change of the state of the body, or by an irreparable loss of any of its parts, but by an intrinsic and accidental cause acting as it seems upon the fluids, is a proper subject for medicine, and is probably curable by some specific. But is not such a specific already known? The *pulvis silyssus*, of the common dispensatory, is surely recommended by a higher authority than any medicine in a private hand can boast.

*Mead* considers it as infallible: another physician of great eminence, has declared, within our knowledge, that, if timely administered, he never knew it to fail. Perhaps the medicine recommended is one of those that we have published; it is not uncommon for things known in one place to be secrets in another. We should therefore gladly be informed what evidence there is of the success of this medicine, and whether it be essentially different from those already known.

[*August, 1753.*]



*We have been favoured with the following Extract of a letter from Dr. Hallet to Dr. Hoadley, containing an account of the discovery and success of the medicine administered by Dr. Nugent in the Hydrophobia.*

**D**ECEMBER 5, 1724, I was desired to see one *Mary Follett*, a poor woman at *Ottery*, in *Devonshire*; she is a maiden woman of 30. For 3 years or more she has been frequently seized with a convulsive motion of the diaphragm, in which she makes a horrible noise, like the barking of a dog, and sometimes her breath being stopt (after being tired with this convulsive respiration she falls into universal convulsions, not to be distinguished from epileptic fits. These paroxysms frequently follow one another for three days successively.

The origin of all was a fright after a long intermitting fever. She, by the advice of two physicians, has been bled for it near a hundred times, particularly 36 times this last year. She had, by orders of the same, taken many vomits, purges, mercurials, antihysterics, and antispasmodics of almost all kinds; opiates, the bark, chalybeats, &c. from which she had but little relief. She was lately blooded, and took a vomit of *Ipecacuanha*, but without any benefit.

Considering her case, I despaired of doing her any service, by the common methods: a thought however occurred, from some voyages I had been reading, in which it was said, that some of the *Indians* who mixed *Asa fetida* with their meats, to prevent the cholic, added *musk* to it, to correct its ill flavour: And knowing that a mixture of alcalies and acids, is often a better medicine than either alone, I imagined this might be so, and even make a perfume pass with those who otherwise could not bear it.

The bolus, which I directed for her, was camphire 5 grains, musk 4 grains, and *asa foetida* 3 grains, with some conserve, to be taken every night, or when the convulsions seized her. This in a few minutes, took off the paroxysm, and it was never violent afterwards; but when it returned, it vanished in the same time, on taking the same bolus. She had never any occasion for evacuations from that time. At first I ordered also a hysteric plaister with opium to the abdomen.

Aug. 1, 1753. I hear the said *Mary Follet* is living to this day, and is sometimes troubled with the same fits, but she puts them off constantly and immediately by the musk bolus.

The above success encouraged me to use it many times in hysteric fits, especially those commonly called laughing fits, from which I have observed great advantage. I have never yet met with a *hydrophobia*, in which I should certainly have prescribed it, and I believe in that case the adding opium to it would add to its efficacy.

IV. *Hallett*

[September, 1753.]

Fol



## For PUBLIC BENEFIT.

WHEN a person hath been bit by a dog that is apprehended to be mad, it commonly happens that the dog is killed before one is assured of his condition; and the person bit continues in a cruel uncertainty — *M. Petit*, an eminent surgeon in *France*, has discovered an expedient for putting an end to this uneasiness. He rubs the throat, the teeth, and the gums of the dead dog with a piece of meat that hath been dressed, taking care that there be no blood to stain it, and then offers it to a living dog. If he refuses it with crying and howling; the dead dog was certainly mad; but, if it be well received and eaten, there is nothing to fear.

[*December, 1753.*]

*Remarkable Account of the Cure of an Hydrophobia, transmitted to the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris, by Dr. Le Comte, Physician at Rethel.*

ON the 10th of *Jan.* 1749, the chevalier de \* \* \*, brig. of the *French* army, as he was returning from hunting, was suddenly attacked by a large house dog, which seized him by the left arm, and covered it with his slaver and foam; there was no wound, nor any pain beyond what might be tolerably endured; and this lasted till the evening of the next day. The huntsman, who took the dog to be mad, by his foaming, shot him dead.

The chavelier, who had in a manner forgotten the accident, happening to hunt three weeks afterwards, was taken extremely ill, and fainted. His servants told him, that during his fit his countenance was terribly disfigured: This circumstance gave him some suspicion; however, he supp'd that night abroad, and did not return home till near one in the morning, and then he went immediately to bed, and fell a sleep. Two hours afterwards he alarmed the whole house with terrible outcries; those who first enter'd his chamber found him in a fit extended on the floor: such symptoms too plainly indicated the nature of his disorder, and he himself desired that they would secure him; a necessary precaution, for in less than three hours he had a 2d fit, more violent than the former, and he was just got out of a 4th when *Dr. LeComte* arrived. The patient gave him an account of what had pass'd, and concluded with ordering him to prepare him a medicine, with which he had cured not only dogs bitten by mad ones, but likewise several persons, among the rest a girl 17 years old bit by a mad ox, after she had two fits. The doctor fearing that

the

the chevalier would exhaust his spirits by too much talking, interrupted him, by asking him, if he had taken any liquor to recruit him after his fatigue. At the bare mention of liquor the chevalier turned pale, and his face was convulsed; but this lasted not above a minute. The doctor, however was now fully satisfied of the nature of the chevalier's disorder, and his deplorable situation: and tho' he had no great opinion of the virtue of the medicine he proposed, yet being at a loss to substitute a better in its stead, he consented that the brigadier should take it.—This remedy, if the patient has not had a fit, consists in four drams of calcined powder of the male oyster,\* in about a gill of white wine, repeating it after 24 hours; if the patient has had a fit, it must be taken three times, at 12 hours distance, in the same dose, but in a different vehicle; instead of wine, it must be mixed in three new-laid eggs, and the patient must not drink when he eats it, nor all the while the medicine is operating.—The chevalier took it, though with much difficulty, but this did not prevent a fifth fit, which was succeeded by eight more in the space of 16 hours.—Dr. *Le Comte*, who was all the while present, says, that the patient was sensible of the approach of each fit, and would say, in a kind of a suffocated tone, *pray retire*; presently his eyes were turned upwards, and became inflamed; his face and whole body terribly convulsed; he strove to bite every thing near him, and barked like a dog, with his mouth full of foam, his voice hoarse and almost spent: These fits ended in a great lassitude, in which the patient seemed as a dead man, and he came to himself with sad inquietudes, fearing he might have bitten some body in his fit.—There is the utmost reason to think that the medicine had its effect. But after all, the waters of *Plombiers* quite restored him to his former health.

[June, 1751.]

A Young man belonging to the patrolle at *Islington*, and his brother, a boy in the charity school there, being both in bed together, were by a pug dog which used to lie in their room, licked over their faces while in bed; and in about two days after, the eldest found himself very uneasy, and went to a surgeon, who bled him; but soon after he foamed and barked as a dog, and tore the vein open, and although proper means were used, bled to death. The boy on this was sent to the salt water to be dipped, but in the way died in the greatest agonies.

[April, 1757.]

\* This account does not mention the shell, though it is likely that is the thing meant, if not for the shell and fish together.

..A singular

*A singular Case of a spontaneous Hydrophoby succeeded by Madness. As related by M. Lavirotte.*

A Man about thirty ; of a melancholy habit, and asthmatic for some years past, having exposed himself almost naked to the open air when in a profuse sweat by violent exercise ; and having besides walked two miles in a very hot day, was seized suddenly with incessant sneezing, and upon his return complained of difficulty of breathing and swallowing, with great dejection and inquietude ; he therefore went to bed, but would take nothing all that day. In the evening the difficulty of breathing increased almost to a degree of suffocation. He was bled in the arm, and took a little theriaca diluted with water, but with remarkable reluctance, conceiving himself the moment it was down, to be absolutely choked ; his arms and hands were stiff, and he screamed out violently, and begged to be relieved by pulling him by the fingers. This fit soon passed over, yet the difficult respiration continued all the night, nearly in a degree as before the bleeding, which induced his surgeon to repeat the operation at four in the morning, though without any benefit to the patient ; Dr. *Lavirotte* was then called, and came about eleven : The man told him he was in a violent fit of an asthma, such as he had brought him out of the year before, and must be suffocated without immediate help. The Dr. observed the wild look of his eyes ; that he did not breathe through the nostrils, yet dreaded to open his mouth ; that his lips were pressed together, and his teeth fast closed. If the chamber door was opened, he clapped his hands before his mouth, and cried out, that the air would smother him ; his sensibility was such in this respect that the breath of the bystanders incommoded him, and he would turn himself aside to avoid it. The pulse was hard and contracted, but no quicker than usual. He voided his urine in the bed, and his belly was relaxed by the glysters that had been administered that and the preceding days. His throat shewed no marks of inflammation ; he complained not of any head ach, but of a violent pain at his stomach ; he belched up much wind, and had some reachings to vomit in the night ; the Dr. desired him to drink, to be satisfied of his difficulty of swallowing, but he begged to be excused ; the Dr. insisted on it, and offered him some water in a tea spoon ; upon which he turned up his eyes, and his limbs were all convulsed, the muscles of his back became rigid, and the thyroid cartilage of the larynx was raised and depressed with an amazing quickness. Having been left some time unmolested, he was asked to swallow a bit of the crumb of bread ; this he attempted without the least horror, but could get none down. The Dr. put several questions to him, and he answered that he had been neither stung nor bitten by any kind of animal.



The physician convinced of the impossibility of introducing any antispasmodic medicine into his stomach, proposed to him to bathe in warm water; this did not at all terrify him, and he readily consented. But when the water was brought, he fell into an universal convulsive tremor, and a profuse cold sweat; desiring some respite before he attempted any thing further: at length he plunged his legs in up to the knees, but could not be prevailed on to do any more. The Doctor left orders that he should continue in that situation three hours, and that the water should be kept warm all the while. He could not endure it above an hour and a quarter, being in violent agitations, and insisting on being taken out. He seemed to have received some little relief; and told the doctor when he returned, that his throat was somewhat relaxed whilst he stood in the water, and he could breathe easier, moreover that he could perceive his disorder to descend downwards, but that it was absolutely impossible for him to stay in any longer. The convulsions soon returned, and he was bled in the foot, which eased him a little. Three hours after, he told the physician that he believed he could drink, and even asked for a little broth; he turned aside his face from it, and only dipped the tip of his finger in it, which he applied to his tongue. That instant he screamed out most terribly, and was so violently convulsed, that six persons could scarce keep him still, his head especially was agitated in a most astonishing manner: his mouth was open, and he endeavoured to bite, and threw up a black frothy bile. His face was tumified to that degree, that all the features were abolished, the eyes disappeared, and the whole head was as round as a ball. The convulsions of the muscles of the neck were so enormous, that this part seemed nearly as big as the head. The pulse was at this time very small, quick, concentrated, and convulsed; a cold glutinous sweat overflowed the whole body. The veins of his arms and legs were opened, but very little blood issued, and that so slowly that it coagulated at the orifice. In this condition the patient remained three hours; when his strength decaying, his screams ceased, the convulsions abated, and he died that day, being the second of his disorder, about nine in the evening: he soon turned all over livid, and was buried the next morning for fear of contagion.

[As extraordinary as the above case may appear, other examples of the like nature are upon record, Dr. *Boerhaave* was witness to one which Baron *Van Swieten* relates thus; “an  
“ archer being sent to fetch a hangman, made such violent haste  
“ in hot weather, that he fell into an ardent fever, attended with  
“ an hydrophoby, and died the third day.” And *Boerhaave*  
himself

himself asserts in his 1130th aphorism, that *though this species of madness generally arises from the contagion of some other animal infected in the like manner, yet it has been sometimes observed to come on spontaneously in certain acute diseases.* Van Swieten also cites *Salvus Diversus* for another instance, and *Skenkius* mentions several from *Marcellus Donatus*, and his own observation. In the first volume of the *Edinburgh* medical miscellanies, there is an observation of Dr. *Innes* on an inflammation of the stomach with an hydrophoby, cured by copious bleedings. To conclude, *Francis Sanchez* gives a very circumstantial narrative of a spontaneous hydrophoby.

‘ A young man about 25, of a bilious constitution, at a time when he was much oppressed with grief, travelled two days in very hot weather, which threw him into a continual fever and an hydrophoby, without having been bitten by any enraged animal. He was a little delirious, but gave proper answers to the questions that were asked him: he could not bear to be sprinkled with water, nor could he swallow water, wine, or broth; he was much convulsed about the neck. Being advised to drink, he asked for water, and said he could not live without drinking; but when he put the cup to his lips, he was seized with such a horror and tremor as threw him into an universal sweat and convulsions; notwithstanding which he forced some water into his mouth with his own hands, which he presently spit out again; he made a second effort, and actually swallowed some, but instantly brought it up again with a great deal of saliva. He died the fifth day. Hence it is probable that an Hydrophoby may be generated in man immediately from an intense solar heat, without the bite of any animal, when the temper of the humours approach to that of dogs enraged.’

[October, 1757.]

44 *A little Tract having appeared in an English Dress, which has been greatly approved in France, where it was first published, and which promises Success in the Cure of that most dreadful of all Distempers, the Hydrophobia, but more particularly in the first stages of the Distempers proceeding from the Bite of mad Animals, we have with great care selected the Author's whole process, omitting only particular Cases; one of which is very extraordinary and singular, which we have inserted, of a woman, who was seized with the Hydrophobia, and continued in that Condition Three Days, and yet recovered. Take the Author's method in his own Sense.*

[Begin, says he, with rubbing a dram of mercurial ointment upon the wounded part, keeping open the wound, as much as possible, that the ointment may penetrate into it. The next

day I repeat the unction on all the bitten member, and purge my patient with a dram of the mercurial pills. The third day, after rubbing in the ointment on the bitten part, I give a small mercurial bolus, or the fourth part of the dose above-mentioned. I continue thus for ten days to rub in a dram of the ointment every morning, and to give the laxative bolus, which commonly procures the patient two or three stools, and hinders the mercury from affecting the upper parts. At the end of ten days, I purge again with the same pills, and dismiss the patient.

#### *The MERCURIAL PILLS.*

Three drams of crude mercury, extinguished in a dram of turpentine. Choice rhubarb, colloquintida, and gambooge, in powder, of each two drams.

I make up the whole with a sufficient quantity of clarified honey. The dose one dram.

#### MERCURIAL OINTMENT.

One ounce of crude mercury, extinguished in two drams of turpentine. Mutton suet, three ounces.

I make use of mutton suet here at *Pondicherry*, because the heat of the climate hinders the hog's-lard, which would do better, from having the consistence necessary for an ointment.

The method I have described, and the time mentioned, are only proper for those who come to be taken care of immediately after being bit: For, when two or three weeks have passed after the bite, it is evident, the dose must be increased, and the use of the medicines continued for a longer time. For children I cause small quantities of the ointment to be rubbed in every day for fifteen days, and purge them once in three days with syrup of rhubarb.

I have remarked that children and young people are, in general, most susceptible of the venom of this disease.

As to regimen, I forbid my patients nothing but things tart or acid, and such meats as are hard to digest. Bathing in the sea, which has hitherto been looked upon as an infallible preservative against the *Rabies*, experience has taught me to reject, as intirely useless in the cure of this disease.

Though this method rarely occasions a salivation, yet it sometimes does. This gives me no uneasiness: I go on in my usual way. I had rather see a patient under a salivation for a few days than mad.

I have never seen any mad person mimick the creature that bit him, as is generally believed: Nor is it true that the frothy *Saliva* of a mad person infects those who touch it; for in my presence, several persons have walked barefoot on the *Saliva* of a child that died the same day raving mad, without the least injury.



As to the furious desire which some patients have of biting those who approach them, I saw it in one young man, who bit two women, his relations; one about 60, the other 30 years old.

The eldest of the two was very careful to come every day for my medicines, after having bathed herself in the sea. I treated her in the manner before mentioned, and she has always enjoyed good health for the two years and a half since this accident happened. The other woman came to me the two first days, but did not return for three or four days. I sent for her, and acquainted her with the danger. She submitted to a third unction, and then left off, contenting herself with bathing in the sea twice a day, for fifteen or twenty days, when she thought herself free from danger, by her bathings, because she had been well from the 28th of *March* to the 7th of *May* at night, which was the 39th day from the bite: But she then began to feel a heavy pain in her head, as she informed me by message. I sent her half a dram of ointment, to make a slight unction immediately upon the arm that had been bit; and when she came to me next morning, I made her take a dram of mercurial pills. She vomited twice, and was purged nine or ten times. Next day, having bathed herself well in the sea, (for she had such a fancy to this bathing, that I let her use it as much as she pleased) she came, and told me the pain and heaviness in her head still continued; and that her head was like a piece of wood (these were her own words). She added, that she had pains in her neck, breast, belly, and particularly all down her back. I gave her a laxative mercurial bolus, and ordered three drams of the ointment to be rubbed into her back, and the arm which had been bit. The day following, *May* 10, I repeated both these. A cup of water, which I then made them present to her, raised her stomach, and made her draw back. The *hydrophobia* characterized the disease too plainly to doubt it's being the true rabies. However, without despairing of a cure, I caused three drams of mercurial ointment to be well rubbed in at night, all over her body. Next morning it was repeated: At this time the patient kept herself in a corner of the chamber, and would neither eat nor drink. Under these circumstances a salivation began, which I looked on as a favourable omen. I repeated the unction again at night, with three drams of ointment: In the night-time she salivated much, and next day found her head considerably relieved. Two slight unctions, which were afterwards made with two drams of ointment each time, kept up a plentiful salivation all that day. The day following, which was *Sunday, May* 13, she found herself so

well, that she went to bathe in the sea : She came also to hear mass, and to ask medicines of me. The sight of her, and the change in her condition, surprised me agreeably. I had the curiosity to try if the *hydrophobia* was gone : She drank, though, indeed, with some difficulty, half a cup of water. I again repeated theunctions, (but made them slighter) morning and evening, for two days longer. The second day, at night, there came on a dysenteric purging. I was not in the least alarmed at it : I strengthened the patient inwardly with a little confection of hyacinth. The salivation, purging, and dysentery continued until next day ; when, not observing any further signs of illness, and the *hydrophobia* being quite gone, I gave her an ounce of *catholicon*, made with a double quantity of rhubarb, which purged her gently, and stopped the dysentery and purging, occasioned by the mercury. At night she took a dose of *diascordium*, and next day repeated the same remedies morning and evening. Lastly, by means of an astringent gargle, I fastened the patient's teeth, which had been a little loosened, and she did not lose one of them. The cure was in this manner happily completed. She is now in perfect health.

There is not, in any author I know, mention made of so much as one person who has had the *hydrophobia* three days, and has survived it. This, however, is a cure, in which the Lord has permitted me to be an instrument.

I can truly declare, that I have treated, with equal success, men, women, children, *Indians*, *Portuguese*, blacks, *Mulattos*, and *Armenians*, more in number than three hundred persons, without one of them being afflicted with the least symptom of madness. I do not pretend to say, that all those whom I treated, would have become mad, but since so many persons, bit by mad animals, have been kept free from the symptoms of madness ; the matter is beyond all dispute, since the cure of the greatest part cannot be attributed to any thing but the effects of the remedy I have constantly made use of on all those occasions.

[December, 1756.]

*Remedies against the venomous Bite of a Mad Dog, published in France by the Sieur Merlet of Rochelle, and approved by the College of Physicians there.*

**T**AKE a handful of white daisies, fresh gathered with the roots, which are to be cleaned from the earth without washing.

Half an handful of the roots of honey-suckles, the younger the better, which are to be cleaned like those of the daisies, and split into small pieces, that they may be more easily bruised.

One

(One root of scorsonnere prepared as the former.

As much sage as can be taken up between the finger and thumb.

Half a clove of garlick pceled.

Two or three leaves of rue.

(One Handful of sea salt.

Beat them altogether in a mortar large enough to contain the ice, which must be carefully preserved.

When they have been well beaten, put them juice and all, into a glazed earthen vessel, with about two bottles of white wine, and let them stand 24 hours.

(Of this infusion give the patient about two glasses, or a good spoonful, every morning fasting, for eight mornings successively, and let him neither eat nor drink for three hours afterwards; no confinement nor regimen is necessary.

[December, 1759.]

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*certain method of knowing whether a Dog, when he hath bit any Person, be really mad.*

**M**R. Petit, an eminent surgeon, in France, hath discovered this expedient, viz. He rubs the throat, the teeth, and the gums of the dead dog, with a piece of meat that has been pressed, taking care that there be no blood (to stain it) and then offer it to a living dog; if he refuseth it with a crying and howling, the dead dog was certainly mad; but if the victuals have been well received and taken, there is nothing to fear.

[June, 1760.]

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*part of a Letter from John Parsons, M. D. F. R. S. including a Remedy for the Bite of a Mad Dog.*

**T**HE daily accounts in our public papers, of persons bitten by mad dogs, are very alarming; especially as I hear several of these reports confirmed by persons who have been witnesses of the miserable deaths of their neighbours, from being bitten.

I was indeed resolved to lay my thoughts of this matter before the Royal Society, at their next meeting; but the present calamity calls for a more speedy communication of a remedy, that is fair for the preservation of my fellow creatures.

If we consider the nature of this evil, and the methods recommended for its cure, I believe it will appear that some of them are



are very improperly directed, and that others have no specific power to correct the infection ; for the poison, being in the *saliva* of the dog, is communicated to the mass of blood by the wound, and changes its salutary condition into a state not at all capable of carrying on the life of the bitten animal as before ; but, on the contrary, as soon as the infection operates, throws the creature into strange agonies, which end in death.

Now, since the communication of this poison is almost instantaneous, the remedy ought to be as quickly applied as possible to the wound. Medicines taken into the stomach are too slow, and suffer changes too great to hope for any good effect from them ; for the remedy ought to be sent in after the poison, in its natural state ; that is, not altered, which it would be by digestion in the stomach.

When persons are bitten, they are usually sent to be dipped in the sea ; but the time taken up in going to the sea is too great ; the mischief is every moment going on towards the change of the proper quality of the blood ; and is often completed before they arrive at the water ; and indeed it is a doubt to me whether any of the usual remedies ordered for these bites do ever produce the desired effect. They have amused people, and as the time of the destruction of persons bitten is sometimes pretty long, and the places of their abode perhaps at some distance from each other, their deaths pass off unnoticed ; and no more is heard of them afterwards.

*The Remedy I propose is the following :*

As soon as the person receives the bite, let a spoonful or two of common salt be moistened with water, observing not to make it too fluid ; let some of this be well rubbed into the wound, and repeated three or four times a day, for a week or ten days, and a compress armed with the same laid on, and properly confined. If the wound is very little it ought to be dilated, that enough of the salt may be the sooner introduced.

If we may suppose the change wrought upon the mass of blood by these bites, to be a species of acrimonious putrefaction, salt seems to be the specific remedy for the preservation of its texture and quality. Is not salt the grand preserver of the world from putridity, to which, the animal and vegetable parts have a natural tendency ? nor can there be a more powerful medicine for curing foul ulcers, than salt topically applied, either in substance or its spirits, which I have often seen.

But, as to the Bites of Mad Dogs, this is not meer conjecture founded upon theory alone ; the inhabitants of *Connecticut*, *New England*, know it well, and practise it upon every such occasion, with so much success, as after its application to be in no further

concern

concern about it, nor ever to hear of the death of any one, on whom it has been applied. They cure their dogs and cattle in the same manner when bitten; and it is not only the bites of men and dogs that are thus cured, but even those of every venomous animal among them; for which purpose they carry salt with them when they go into the woods.

This is asserted, and I think the authority good, by the Rev. Mr. Jarrd Elliot, at Killingsworth, in Connecticut, in a letter to Peter Collinson, Esq. F. R. S. who some time ago sent me that letter for my perusal.

And as to the *spirit of salt*, it has been applied with no less success here, by a surgeon of my acquaintance, who was bit by a mad cat several years ago; and by applying to the wound immediately, and for several days successively, the *spirit of salt*, a little diluted with water, and taking at the same time some drops of a glass of water, has remained well to this day.

This, sir, is what I thought would be a benefit to mankind, and I shall be very happy if it proves so. Indeed it seems to me extremely providential, that *salt* is to be had every where, and therefore the remedy is always at hand; no one substance of the terraqueous globe being so universally dispensed among its inhabitants.

J. PARSONS.

P. S. Since I wrote the above, a lady of fashion informed me, that a gentleman of her acquaintance, who kept a pack of hounds, cured his huntsman with dry salt rubbed into the bitten place, immediately after the dog had bit him, and the dog was dead; the same gentleman ever after carried a box of salt in his pocket, for fear of a like accident, as he was often among his hounds: Hence it is not improbable, but others may know it too in some parts of *England*.

[August, 1760.]

Mr. URBAN,

THE dreadful effects that we every day hear of from the bites of *Mad Dogs*, are indeed very alarming, and the many remedies against the infection, recommended by different physicians, are so various, and seemingly inconsistent, that the unfortunate persons who are bitten, and even those of the faculty to whom they apply, are frequently at a loss what to take, or what to prescribe; so that in this state of uncertainty, it may be, that even specific remedies may lose a part of their virtue by being taken with diffidence.

Though this conjecture may have no weight, yet what I am now going to offer should make a deep impression.

It

It may be remembered, that, in your Magazine, there have been two remedies for the bite of a mad dog so strongly urged, that it were presumptuous to question their effects; the one is *topical*, and the other to be taken *inwardly*, and as, upon the present melancholy occasion, every one ought to be particularly acquainted with them, I beg it as a favour to the public, that you would repeat them, because it is not in every one's power to refer back to the Magazine in which they have appeared.

The former of these remedies is that first printed in the *London Evening Post*, about 30 years ago, and is in these remarkable words:

' Great application having been made to Mr. Figg, at the *Rainbow*, in the *Bowling Alley*, *Westminster*, for an explanation of his receipt for curing bites by mad-dogs, &c. declares, that having been bit six times by mad dogs, always cured himself by mixing one pound of common salt in a quart of water, and then squeeze, bathe, and wash the wound, with the same, for an hour, and not drink any of it; then bind a little more salt to the part affected for 12 hours. Mr. Figg offers (though it is presumptuous) to suffer himself to be bit by any mad dog, as a testimony to convince any person, that what he offers is matter of fact.'

The other is that printed in your Magazine about 14 years ago, and is as follows:

' Take the leaves of rue, picked from the stalks and bruised, six ounces; garlick picked from the stalks and bruised, *Venice* treacle and mithridate, and the scrapings of pewter, of each four ounces; boil all these over a slow fire, in two quarts of strong ale, till one pint be consumed; then keep it in a bottle close stopped, and give of it nine spoonfuls to a man or woman, warm, seven mornings together fasting, and six spoonfuls to a dog.'

' This, the author believes, will not (by God's blessing) fail, if it be given within nine days after the biting of the dog. Apply some of the ingredients from which the liquor was strained to the bitten place.'

This last receipt was taken from the church of *Cathorp*, *Lincolnshire*, where, almost the whole parish were bit by a mad dog, and those who used it recovered, and they who did not died.

Now, sir, as these two remedies, the one *topical*, the other *internal*, have such unquestionable testimonials of their effects *separately*, what must be their power when united, especially as they have nothing repugnant to each other in their nature, but the contrary. It is my firm belief, that by the applying the one to the wound as directed, as soon as the person is bitten, and following the directions above given, and at the same time taking



making the other internally, the bite of a mad animal may be considered as harmless as the prick of a pin.

Yours, &c.

BENEVOLUS.

[August, 1760.]

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*Mr. Ingram's Method of curing the Bite of a mad Dog.*

As soon as possible after a person is bit, an ignited iron should be applied to the wound. This iron ought to be a flat common surgeon's cautery, about the size of the little finger nail, in substance not very thick. The application need only be slight, as to burn only the skin of the depth of the wound.—Afterwards, rub the part with fine oil, and apply a digestive of yellow lilicon with a bandage, and, as soon as possible, bring the part to digestion and suppuration, that there may be a discharge.

To show a certainty of this method of cure, Mr. *Ingram* observes that in one season of the year the dogs in the *West-Indies* are particularly subject to madness. In this season, says he, I have known a great number of Negroes bit by them. The first Negroes were all canterized, and every one was cured. One near twenty were bit in one day; nineteen were cured, the other Negroe would not submit to the cautery; the hydrophobia came on, and he died mad.—He adds that he has known more than 200 cured by the method here described.

[August, 1760.]

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At a common council held this day at the *Guild Hall* of the City of *London*, an order was issued for the constables, headles of the several wards, watchmen, and other ward-officers, to kill *all dogs* that shall be found in the streets or highways of the City of *London*, after the 27th instant, and a reward of 2s. ordered to be paid for each Dog that shall be so killed and skinned in the skin, being first several times slashed in the body. The two furthestmost quarters in *Moorfields* are allotted for the burying-place of such Dogs. Orders of the like kind have been issued by the magistrates of other Corporations, but with less success, *strolling Dogs without masters* being the only victims.—It is hoped and wished that a greater evil may not result from these orders than they are intended to remedy. The putrefaction of animal flesh is known to be productive of the very worst tempers, and no less than the bodies of 30 dead dogs were found in one day in *Tower Ditch*, by a person of undoubted veracity, who was only casually passing by that way. Should any infectious

tious distemper take its rise from the hasty order for this indiscriminate destruction of dogs, would not the magistrates be highly blameable? Of the dogs that will be massacred on this occasion, not one in 1000 will be mad; and of those that are mad, not one, perhaps will be killed. Those who make it a revenue to kill the dogs, will carefully avoid meddling with any that have bad symptoms, from the dread of the consequences.

[August, 1760.]

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Mr. URBAN,

Westminster, Sep. 10.

I Was much pleased to see in your last Magazine for *August*, those well attested remedies for the bite of a Mad Dog, that are so readily applicable on any sudden occasion; for though I do not believe that the late and present clamours against dogs have any just foundation, having myself taken the pains to examine the weekly bills of mortality for the *three last years*, in which time not *one* person has died of the bite of a mad dog in this great metropolis; yet as it is an undoubted fact, that there is such a distemper as the *Hydrophobia*, and that it *sometimes* happens from the bite of a *mad dog* as well as from other causes, I think every specific remedy to prevent its bad effects should be made as public as possible.

It is with this view, that I now recommend to the notice of the public three letters lately published in the News-papers, in which it is agreed, that one Mr. Hill, a gentleman of fortune, at Ormskirk, in Lancashire, has a medicine, *one single draught of which without any bathing in salt-water, or other outward application, effects a perfect cure.* Now, Sir, if this be really the case, and I have myself, upon enquiry, been confirmed in the belief of it by a gentleman of unquestionable veracity, who resided some time in the neighbourhood of Ormskirk; the best method I can think of to render this medicine universally useful, is to spread it universally throughout the kingdom; for while the knowledge of it is confined to Lancashire, the people in the southern counties can receive no benefit from it.

It has been urged against a parliamentary purchase of the receipt, that the ingredients are so common, and the composition so simple, that were the medicine itself to be generally known, it would be generally neglected. This may indeed be true, for which reason, instead of a parliamentary purchase to be made of it, I would recommend it to the gentlemen of the faculty, by whom I mean the college of physicians, and companies of surgeons and apothecaries, to join in the purchase, and to register the receipt in books to which all their respective

member

members may have recourse. This would make the medicine sufficiently known, and preserve its reputation by concealing from the patient the simplicity of the remedy from which he receives his cure.

With respect to the present severity exercised upon dogs by magisterial authority, it is humbly presumed, that though it may be lawful and even laudable upon certain occasions, yet the killing of dogs *indiscriminately* should never be authorized but upon the most urgent necessity. Before edicts for this purpose be issued, the grounds of complaint should be strictly examined; and, if nothing unusually terrible has happened, the clamours in News-papers ought rather to be silenced, than the general massacre of dogs determined. Were the printers of the News-papers made answerable for the truth of the facts inserted in their papers, few of these terrifying stories would be found in them to alarm weak minds, and excite their aversion to innocent creatures, who have a right to life and protection, for the faithful services they render, whenever such services are required, either for pleasure or defence.

It has, moreover, been observed, that many persons who have been bitten by dogs, have lived long under great anxiety, in the apprehension of their being mad, no proof to the contrary being possible, when the dog is immediately killed; whereas by preserving and confining him, the recovery of the dog would often put an end to the fears of the person bitten; it is therefore little less injurious to society to destroy a dog *suspected only* of madness, than to save one that is really mad. The death of the one frequently entails lasting misery: the life of the other may be rendered harmless by confinement.

A writer in the *Ledger* humorously enough observes, that amongst all the frightful stories of great mischief done by mad dogs, he does not remember to have read of their biting anybody in the sight of the houses where Newspapers are printed; a caution which he ascribes to the admirable instinct of these animals, in refraining from mischief within sight of the printers, lest they should raise the hue and cry after them, by averring that they saw it done with their own eyes. Some, adds he, imagine, that the days of persecution will be shortened, and dogs allowed to breathe the fresh air before the end of next month; but he declares himself of a different opinion, grounded upon an observation made by the *Spectator*, that *when the people of this land are up with any humour, they never lay it down till they have rode to death.*

[October, 1760.]

I am, Sir, &c.



*Some Account of a Treatise on Canine Madness; by R. James, M. D.*

THE Doctor recites many facts, to prove that a *hydrophobia* may be generated from causes independent of the bite of a mad animal; and that animals have died mad of the bite of another mad animal, without that symptom. He relates, on the authority of Colonel *Martin* of *Antigua*, that a mad dog was never known in the *Leeward Islands*; which confirms an affirmation quoted by *Van Swieten*, from the *Bibliothèque Raisonné*, and there is no such thing as a mad dog in all *South America*.

The fatal disease of mad animals is communicated to man by the *saliva* only; but it is sometimes communicated without a wound: a man, in an advanced stage of the disease, gave it to his children by kissing them; and it has sometimes been caught of dogs, by those who have ventured to force open their jaws to drench them. By dogs it may be caught from effluvia; for when a kennel has been once infected by the residence of mad dogs, dogs have contracted the distemper a long while afterwards, by lying in it, though all the straw has been burnt, the kennel fumigated, and other methods used to purify it.

It is Dr. *James's* opinion, that canine madness is nothing more than the fever to which carnivorous animals are subject, attended with a delirium in that called the *raving madness*, and with a kind of coma, or sluggishness, in what is called the *dumb madness*.

The bite of a person in a fever has sometimes produced fatal effects, of which a particular case is related. In *January* 1754, a lady, who had a remitting fever, that became continual, bit the last joint of the little finger of a person that attended her, while she was in the height of a delirium, so as just to draw blood: this was immediately followed by pain and inflammation: three days after she was blooded, and took a purge; yet, a week afterwards, she was seized with a spitting of froth, and a fever followed: this fever was cured by Dr. *James's* powders; but in the *June* following the finger became inflamed, little watery blisters appeared upon it, the spitting and fever returned, with pains in the head, very different from the common head ach: she took the powders again, which removed the fever; but it was followed by hysteric symptoms, and she died.

The most indubitable sign of a dog's going mad, is, that other dogs avoid him with the utmost terror and precipitation. A man who used to come every day to Dr. *James's* house, was so beloved by three spaniels which the Dr. kept, that they never failed to jump into his lap, and caress him the whole time he staid:

staid: it happened that this man was bitten by a mad dog, and the very first night he came under the influence of the distemper, they all ran away from him to the very top of the garret-stairs, barking and howling, and shewing all other signs of distress and consternation. The man was cured. But the dogs were not reconciled to him for three years.

The *canine madness* is, according to Dr. James, communicated in the same manner as the small-pox, by inoculation; and the receptacle of this disease of the small-pox, and of the venereal distemper, he supposes to be the *cellular membrane*.

"This membrane is of a vascular contexture, and forms innumerable cells communicating with each other, in which the fat is lodged. It invests all the moveable parts of the body, and, by its interposition betwixt the internal part of the skin, and external surface of the muscles, renders the skin moveable, whilst the muscles are at rest. As it separates the muscles from the skin, so it lies betwixt the muscles, and separates every individual muscle of the body from every other muscle, that they may move upon each other without difficulty. It forms also *vaginae* (sheaths) for the tendons of the muscles, that they may readily move backwards and forwards without any hindrance. It farther accompanies the heads and tendons of the muscles to their origins from, and insertions into, the bones, where it is expanded upon the membrane that covers the bones, the bones and ligaments of the joints, which it involves, and insinuates itself to the Viscera (internal organs) under the *meninges, plura,* and *peritonæum*.

"Every individual muscular fibre is also clothed with a process of this membrane, by the intervention of which every fibre is separated from every other fibre.

This membrane, therefore, carries on an intercourse between the parts of the body the most remote from each other; betwixt the skin, for example, and the marrow of the bones; for as it reaches from the skin to the external *periosteum*; and as the matter which forms the marrow is conveyed to the bone, and a portion of it reconveyed back again by the vessels of the *periosteum*, the way is obvious how these remote parts may communicate.

"Boerhaave says, he is convinced of this structure, and the uses of the *membrana cellulosa* by incontestible experiments, and that the knowledge of it is indispensibly necessary both for understanding and curing an Inflammation, Suppuration, Gangrene, Schirrus, Cancer, Atheroma, Steatoma, Meliceris, Sphaecelus, and Dropsy.

"This membrane is the usual seat of imposthumation and Boils, in which nature uninterrupted always corrodes a hole in the

the skin, from whence we may learn, that the best way of opening imposthumations is by a hole, and that too as near the time of its breaking naturally as may be, that nature may make the utmost advantage of the discharge.

“ There is also a perpetual intercourse betwixt the blood vessels and the cellular membrane, and consequently betwixt the contents of both, the blood and the fat; and that the fat enters the composition of the *bile*, a portion of it being conveyed from its great receptacle the *omentum*, which in beasts is called the *leaf*, to the *vena portarum* (the large vessel which conveys the juices to the liver) by vessels adapted to that use.”

Dr. *James* supposes that the poisonous saliva, adhering to the tooth of the mad animal, is immediately communicated to the fat in the cells of this membrane, and for this purpose a scratch is sufficient; for if the cuticle, or external skin, is raised, without opening a single blood-vessel, or even drawing one drop of blood, this subtil poison, as well as the venereal venom, will enter the *cellular membrane* thus uncovered, and will be there harboured for a longer or shorter time, according to the degree of the infection, the heat of the weather, the constitution of the patient, his manner of life, and a thousand unnoticed circumstances, which may either accelerate or retard the progress of the venom.

In this first receptacle it lies like a kind of leaven, and communicates itself to the adjacent cells, and these to others, till the whole mass is contaminated, or at least so much as to produce a distemper like that of the animal from which it was originally communicated.

From the fat of this membrane, the blood is contaminated but slowly, so that it is frequently found to be very good till the latter stages; the first application, therefore, has probably been generally found ineffectual, because it has been generally made to the blood or the nerves, which have not been affected; and which, when they are affected, do not so much excite the distemper as receive it.

But as fat is known to enter the bile, this fluid must be affected early; and as a black tenacious bile is the great cause of alienation of mind; and as the bile is always found tenacious and black in this disease, it is probable, in the highest degree, that the bile is thus changed by the canine venom which is conveyed to the liver, where that juice is formed, by the *vena portarum*, together with the fat that enters into its composition.

As the manner in which the *canine madness* is communicated, is similar to that of the venereal disease; as the part that receives the contagion, and from which it is propagated, is also the same, it was reasonable to suppose it would be cured by the same  
remedy;



remedy; and this supposition is justified by indubitable experiments.

The *canine madness*, in the first and second stages, Dr. *James* has often cured by mercurial preparations; and has related the cases with great precision and perspicuity: though others have, in this case, used mercurial ointments, which he also has adopted, yet he was the first that administered mercury internally.

He explodes the ridiculous practice called worming of dogs; there being no such thing as a worm under a puppy's tongue, but a slender filament, which folly and ignorance only could mistake for a worm: this operation, therefore, can have no effect but giving unnecessary pain to a harmless and innocent creature.

The method of cure recommended by the Doctor is as follows:

“ Rub into the part where the wound was received, a dram or more of any mercurial ointment, as soon as possible after the bite. That made by rubbing in a mortar two parts of hog's lard with one of crude quicksilver will do, but equal parts of hog's lard and crude quicksilver will be better, though it requires more trouble to unite them; for great care should be taken to incorporate well the quicksilver with the lard. This should be repeated every day for a week; but if it can be done twice a day without salivation, it is the better. The evening of the same day let the patient take the following medicine.

“ Take of *turpeth mineral*, from three to eight grains, according to the strength of the patient, and the degree of infection received, so far as can be judged by the bite; Camphire, an equal quantity. Let this be made with any conserve, as that of hips, into a bolus, or ball. This may possibly vomit, though the Camphire is added to prevent it. The dose should be repeated the next evening but one; and again after forty-eight hours interval. This cannot be done without some hazard of a salivation, especially in some constitutions. It must, therefore, be watched, and upon the first approach of any soreness of the mouth, or slavering, the farther use of the medicine should be deferred till that ceases, and then be reassumed.

“ About two or three days after the last dose, if no accident happen as to salivation, the patient should bathe in cold water over head every day, till the day before the next full or new moon. And that day let the dose of *turpeth mineral* be repeated for three times, as before; but I think the dose may then be less, as two or three grains. And after the third dose let the patient again bathe as before; and let this method be repeated for the three or four succeeding periods of the moon.

“ This is the preservative method for the human species; but it will succeed equally with brutes, though it is impossible to specify the exact doses for them, as some are large, and others small, and consequently require larger or smaller doses. In general

general for a dog of a moderate size, six or seven grains of the *turpeth mineral* are sufficient.

“ But when any symptoms of the distemper begin to appear, somebody of skill should attend; for then the cure depends upon saturating the body, as much as possible, with mercury, without raising a salivation precipitately, or so as to injure the patient. Therefore more mercury should be rubbed in, and more frequent doses of the *turpeth mineral* should be exhibited, as not a moment must be lost. When this method is pursued, no heating medicines should be given on any account. Nervous medicines, therefore, which in general excite heat, are carefully to be avoided. As yet no instance has come to my knowledge of a cure performed by any of the preparations of opium, nor by musk without mercury.

“ The *Tonquin* remedy is in considerable reputation, and I have reason to believe, not without deserving it, in some measure. The use of it, which I would recommend, is (after the preservative method has been duly pursued) to take twenty-five grains of the native cinnabar, twenty-five grains of factitious cinnabar, and fourteen grains of the best musk, in a glass of arrack, the night before several of the succeeding great periods of the moon.  
[December, 1760.]

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A Letter from *Italy* appeared in the public papers which took notice of a discovery made there by accident of the great efficacy of vinegar in the cure of madness occasioned by the bite of a mad dog. A patient at *Padua* was cured of a *Hydrophobia* by three draughts of vinegar, a pint at a draught. —If any opportunity should ever offer to try this remedy in *England*, our readers are earnestly requested to communicate to us an account of the success.

[June 1764.]

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### *An Account of a Case supposed to be an Hydrophobia.*

IN 1764, an account was published in the *Public Advertiser*, of an *hydrophobia* that was cured by vinegar, swallowed every three hours, in doses of about four ounces, under the direction of Dr. *Leonissa*, at *Padua*. Lord *Morton* thought it a matter of such importance, that he wrote to general *Græme*, commander in chief of the *Venetian* forces, to know if the account was true. The fact was this. Three persons  
were

were bitten by a mad dog; in two the hydrophobia appeared, and they died; the third, who had only a very slight and superficial scratch upon his cheek, never was affected by the hydrophobia; what symptoms appeared, or whether any; we are not told, but this man drank the vinegar and recovered. It may still be worth while to try, by farther experiments, whether the internal use of vinegar will prevent the hydrophobia, though the account of its having cured it is false.

[October, 1766.]

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*Case of the Hydrophobia, by the late Dr. Nicholas Monckley.*

A Gentleman, about 36 years old, was bitten in the hand by a little favorite dog. The dog was instantly killed; and the patient, being blooded, set out for the sea-side the same afternoon. After bathing constantly for ten days, he returned to town, and seemed to be in perfect health for about a month; except that the accident, lying heavy upon his mind, made him melancholy. At the end of about five weeks, he perceived some difficulty in swallowing, like that which is caused by a slight sore throat from a cold. Dr Monckley saw him the next day; he was then in bed, with his head a little raised up from the pillow, and resting upon one hand. His pulse was low, the vessels of his eyes turgid, and his tongue parched and dry, but not white. Dr. Monckley, affecting to treat the disorder as a cold, told him that he must drink plentifully. The moment he had mentioned this, the patient started up, and with great fierceness repeated the word—*drink!* He then, in short, and unfinished sentences, uttered with great quickness, said that it was impossible to drink, and begged that it might no more be mentioned. After some little time, however, it was again mentioned in the most gentle manner; but the effect was exactly the same as before. The symptoms did not much encrease that day; but the next morning the Doctor found him sitting up in the bed, with an attendant on each side of him: he moved himself about with great violence, crossing his arms from side to side, and, striking one of them with great vehemence, he cried out earnestly to be let blood. His eyes were redder than the day before, and there was an appearance of horror and despair in his looks beyond what the Dr. had ever seen before in any madness or delirium; yet he was perfectly in his senses, and knew every body.

He had begun to spit from the time of his growing disturbed, and he was now spitting perpetually. The phlegm was of a yellow cast, and so tenacious that it was with great difficulty got up. The noise that he made in hawking was of a singular kind,

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and



and might, by a prepossessed imagination, be considered as barking or yelping like a dog; but the patient made no attempt to snap or bite.

Two basons of water being brought into the room, and the water poured out of one into the other, near him, he fell into great horror and distress, and seemed to be convulsed all over. He cried out aloud on the person who poured out the water, calling him villain, and exclaiming, as indeed he had reason to do, against the cruelty of such treatment. The Doctor does not say whether the patient's eager desire to be let blood was complied with. In about two hours after this visit was over, death put an end to his misery.

[May, 1772.]

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*An Account of Canine Madness, successfully Treated, by W. Wrightson, Surgeon, at Sedgfield, in Durham.*

THE patient was a boy about fifteen years old. On Sunday, the 24th of December, he was bitten in the leg by a dog, which, on the Tuesday following, was hanged, with all the symptoms of madness upon him. The boy continued well till Wednesday evening, when he complained of sickness, and was seized with vomiting. At night, however, he slept well, and, in the morning seemed to have no complaint: at noon, he eat his dinner with an appetite, but soon after became drowsy. Having slept about an hour, he suddenly started up, looked wildly, and ran out of doors in a furious frantic manner. He was immediately pursued, and brought in again, and soon after seemed to be more composed; but, before the family had thought of securing him, his frenzy returned with greater violence, so that he took out the fire from the grate, and caught hold of the hot bars, without appearing to be sensible of pain. From this time his fits returned frequently, and generally continued five or six minutes. He was always sensible of their approach; and, while they lasted, he would attempt to tear and bite himself and every person and thing that fell in his way, frequently making a strange noise, like the barking of a dog. On Tuesday, the 29th day of December, at two o'clock in the morning, five days after the accident, Mr. Wrightson saw him, and he was then tied down with cords to a wooden bench. The spasms were not upon him, yet he seemed to suffer inexpressible languor, anxiety, and oppression, complained of an uneasiness in his throat, and a rising in his breast, with a sense of suffocation: he was perfectly sensible, and expressed the greatest dread of the return of the

he fit: his pulse was low, but regular, and there was no heat, thirst, or appearance of inflammation. Mr. Wrightson first offered him water, of which he got down a little, with much difficulty and struggling; soon after, he began to apprehend an immediate return of the fit, and water being again offered him, he was not able to swallow a drop, and expressed great uneasiness at the sight of it. This trial was repeated two or three times with the same effect. Nothing was to be perceived upon his leg, but a very small superficial dry scab, with a faint red streak, issuing from it to a little distance. The method of cure was the same as that published by Dr. Nugent of Bath, in the year 1753. Twelve ounces of blood, which had no bad appearance were taken from the arm, and, the spasmodic sympathy soon after abating, thirty drops of laudanum were administered in a spoonful of water. Soon after he had taken his first dose of laudanum, his former convulsions returned, and then, with a violent and sudden motion of his head, he attempted to seize and bite his own hands. This attack however, was weaker and of shorter continuance than the former. As soon as Mr. Wrightson got home, he sent his patient some pills, with one grain and a half of pure opium in each, directing one to be given three hours after his having taken the laudanum, and one every three hours afterwards. He also sent some bolusses, with fifteen grains of musk, fifteen grains of native cinnabar, and fifteen grains of factitious, in each, with directions to administer one every six hours, the first one hour after the second dose of the opiate. He also ordered a drachm of camphor to be dissolved in two ounces of laudanum, and a piece of thin-flannel, moistened with this liquid, to be applied to his throat three or four times a day. In the evening of the same day, Mr. Wrightson saw him again, and found that he had had four or five fits, but that they had become gradually weaker. He still complained much of his throat, and of a difficulty in swallowing. He had also continual convulsive catchings in his arms and hands, with languor and anxiety, and many returns of sickness and retching. In the night, however, he slept tolerably, and the next day, Saturday, all the symptoms were abated. He slept well in the night, and, on Sunday, he was free from all the spasmodic symptoms, except the difficulty of swallowing. It was now thought sufficient to continue the opiate night and morning, and omit the bolusses, especially as his stomach now rejected them. On the Sunday night, and not before, a sweat came on, which appeared to be critical; and from this time the patient gradually recovered; and, on the Wednesday, all medicine was discontinued. During the whole disorder, the patient was costive, and the urine was turbid, not high coloured, but rendered in small quantities.

Mr. Wrightson is of opinion, that the opiates had the greatest share in the cure; and that when the spasms are once subdued, if a sweat does not come on spontaneously, recourse should be had to sudorifics.

[August, 1772.]

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*A Case of the Hydrophobia*, by — Falkener, Surgeon at Southwell, in Nottinghamshire.

THE patient was a woman, of what age is not said, and she was suddenly seized with a numbness in the finger that had been bitten, which was followed by a tingling, and what she called a pain at her heart. How long it was then after she had been bitten, we are not told. The next day she was so convulsed, that five men could not hold her. She was copiously blooded, and the finger, though the bite was so inconsiderable that it could scarcely be seen, was rubbed with mercurial ointment. A bolus was administered, consisting of three grains of turpeth mineral, and three grains of camphor, rubbed together, every morning, for four days, during which time the patient seemed to grow worse, and was never free from delirium. On the fifth day she was better, with lucid intervals of her delirium, in which she warned the by-standers, to take care that she did not bite them. In the next fit she bit her own fingers, the pillow, bedding, and every thing that was in her reach. Some water being brought to her, she seemed pleased while it was offering; but the moment it touched her lips, she rejected it with the utmost abhorrence. Salivation was excited by mercurial ointments and the turpeth bolus, after which she perfectly recovered.

[August, 1772.]

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AT a general meeting of the parishioners of Eccles, near Manchester, it was unanimously agreed to strike off from the poor's-rate all paupers who shall after the 20th instant keep dogs. They also agreed to pay five shillings for every mad dog that shall be killed in their parish.

[June, 1774.]

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Mr. URBAN,

I Trust the usefulness of the following will be a sufficient inducement for you to give it a place in your celebrated Magazine.

In



In the year 1753 I published cases of all kinds of fits, to which were annexed cases of the bite of a mad dog, with my method of treating them at the London Hospital, and in my private practice, with constant success, which is as follows:

I order cuticular incisions to be made about the place bitten, and to let them bleed till they stop of themselves; then to rub into the place bitten, and all about, mercurial ointment, and cover the sore with a mercurial plaister. At night the patient takes a bolus, with two, three, or four grains of calomel, and the next morning a dose of salts, or any other gentle purgative. The morning following he must go into the cold bath.

The mercurial ointment must be rubbed in every night and morning; the mercurial plaister over it. The calomel bolus must be taken every other night, and the purgative the morning following; and the cold bath used the intermediate days.

This process being pursued rigorously during a fortnight, the patient may be assured of safety, provided he has applied immediately upon receiving the bite.

But one who practised this mercurial process at Pondicherry, goes much farther, and affirms, that he has cured with it a woman, who had had the symptoms of the hydrophobia upon her three days; and that he had treated thus above three hundred persons, men, women, and children, Italians, Portuguese, Blacks, Mulattoes, and Armenians; and that all kept free from the symptoms of madness.

I do not recollect any instance, in my practice, so strong to the purpose as the above-mentioned; but something approaching it was that of a man who applied to me about a fortnight after he had been bitten, and felt his head (as he expressed it) very lumpy, and an unaccountable weariness all over, who got very well with this method. And as a caution not to trust in sea bathing, I cannot omit mentioning, that a lad, about fourteen, applied to me, recently bitten, who was cured with my process; but another lad of the neighbourhood, bitten at the same time, by the same dog, being sent to the salt water, died of the hydrophobia six weeks after.

A cure for the hydrophobia has, unhappily, not yet been discovered; but, as the gentleman of Pondicherry affirms, that he had cured with his mercurial process a woman who had the symptoms of the disease upon her, it is to be hoped, that the professors of physic, by maturely considering this process, and improving upon it, will bring it to such perfection as to prove an effectual cure.

It has been asserted lately by gentlemen eminent in the Faculty, that the mercurial treatment is not a safe preservative from

from the consequences of the bite of mad animals; but, as it does not appear, that in their management they had made use of the cold bath, which may be deemed a powerful assistant to the operation of the other means, and the rest of their treatment not being exactly like mine, which always has proved successful, none of my patients having afterwards been afflicted with the hydrophobia, I must therefore persevere in the opinion, that my mercurial process is a safe and sure preventive of the dreadful consequences of the bite of mad animals. And that this practice may be universally known and adopted, is the sincere wish of,

Hatton Garden,

Yours, &c.

Sept. 2, 1777.

J. ANDREE.

P. S. Since I wrote the above, I saw in the Morning Chronicle, Sept. 5, A Case and Cure of the Hydrophobia, by A. B. at No. 109, Hatton Garden, in which the use of mercury bore a great share. My curiosity prompted me to see the author of this great cure, who assured me of the reality of the fact, but would not tell me the patient's name, he being married since, and having children: and said, that if any great good could be effected by it, he would affirm the fact by affidavit.

I mention this extraordinary case by way of encouragement to pursue the discovery of a cure for this most shocking of all human diseases.

[Sept. 1777.]

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*Success of Dr. Andree's Method in curing the Hydrophobia.*

IN our Magazine for September last we were desired by Dr. Andree to publish his method of treating persons bitten by mad animals, with which we readily complied, for the benefit of those who may unfortunately fall under that description. And as a farther encouragement, not only for patients, but for practitioners to try the mercurial process by him recommended, that gentleman has collected and sent us some cases in which it has proved successful in checking the disease consequent thereon, and, one in particular, of curing it in the very last stage; but as these cases have already appeared as advertisements in the newspapers, all that is incumbent on the editors of the Gentleman's Magazine to do in order to co-operate with the Doctor, in making known a *probable remedy* for a disease the most dreadful of all others, and for which no other has yet been found effectual,

tual, is to refer the reader to a Mr. Robinson, who was attended by Dr. Layard, of Hatton-street, and a Mr. Robert Castleman, of Camberwell, who was attended by Dr. Hill, of St. Mary Axe. These are said to have been cured in the last stage of the distemper, particularly the latter. It must not, however, be omitted, that to the Doctor's process both Dr. Layard and Dr. Hill added opiates; and as Mr. *Pott* has lately discovered a singular property in opium of checking one species of mortification, it may not be amiss to mark its effects in correcting other corruptions of the blood, which, though in some cases less quick, may, if not repelled, be no less fatal.

[*December, 1777.*]

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*Kingston, Oct. 29.*

BY the arrival of a Brig from Port-au Prince, we learn that the madness among the dogs was almost universal, throughout the Island of Hispaniola, and that orders had been issued by the government to destroy the whole race of them in that country, which had been so effectually carried into execution by the military, that the surface of the water in the harbour of Port-au Prince was covered with their dead bodies.

The said Disorder is said to range among the Dogs at Kingston.

[*February, 1784.*]

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*Glasgow, April 1.*

A Melancholy instance of the fatal effects of the bite of a Mad Dog presented itself lately to the notice of the faculty here. A man was severely bit in the hand on the morning of Jan. 22. In the afternoon the parts were cut out, and causticks applied. He was put upon a mercurial course, but could not be prevailed on to continue it. On the 18th of March he began to complain of pains in the arms and hand that was bitten, which increased for two days. On the 21st the hydrophobia began, and was very severe, and could not drink, though very desirous of getting any liquid down. On the 23d he got down sometimes a spoonful of drink with difficulty. On the 24th he swallowed both drink and spoon-meat with less pain; but in the afternoon he was attacked with faintings, and about five in the afternoon he died. He was perfectly sensible at the same time.

[*April, 1784.*]

Mr.



Mr. URBAN,

HEARING a friend of mine tell what I thought an extraordinary story concerning the hydrophobia, I applied to him for a copy of it, which is much at your service.

Yours, B. W. B.

SIR,

“ YOU tell me you are desirous of having the particulars of the story I was mentioning concerning the hydrophobia, which happened in my own family, and under my own observation. Here it is at your service, and, should you and the editor of the magazine think it worth inserting, you are very welcome to put it to that use. In the year 1762, when I was in the East Indies, a greyhound of mine ran mad (I was not then at home), and bit two women. Some time after I returned from camp much indisposed; and was disturbed the whole night, as I thought, by the yelping of a dog. When my servant came to me in the morning, I reprehended him for not removing the dogs to a greater distance. He assured me of my mistake; that there were no dogs near me, and that the noise was made by a poor woman, who in my absence had been bitten by one of my dogs. I immediately went to see the poor creature, and found her sitting in the lap of her husband, with a great deal of saliva drivelling from her mouth, in violent agonies, yet perfectly sensible. I asked her many questions relative to the pains she suffered, which, she told me, were chiefly about the neck and throat, and a stricture about the heart. She could bear the sight of water perfectly well; but said, that to attempt to swallow a drop (which she could not possibly do) threw her into the greatest agonies. She died in about two hours after I left her.—The other woman, not feeling then any symptoms of the malady, said she was under no apprehensions, for she had eat some of the dog's liver. However, in a few days afterwards, she was seized; and notwithstanding all the faculty could then do for her, she died, but was very sensible to the last moment.

Yours, &c.”

[October, 1784.]

Mr. URBAN,

THE Hydrophobia is a disease so dreadful, and the cause of it so frequent, that it is the duty of every humane person to make as public as possible every probable remedy that can easily and readily be obtained to prevent its approach.

The means that has hitherto been thought most effectual by way of preventive, is instantly, or as soon as possible, *bathing in the sea*; but was this as effectual as it is generally believed to be,

lbe, it would avail those persons but little, who have the misfortune to be bitten at a great distance from the sea. The remedy, therefore, that I would wish you to make publicly known, and not you only, but every other periodical writer, who has it in this power, is, COMMON SALT, which is almost every where at hand. SALT moistened and instantly rubbed into the wound, and often repeated till it dries and heals of itself, is said on good authority to be infallible; and in confirmation of this fact it is asserted, that the American savages who frequent the woods in pursuit of game, never go without salt, on which they rely as a preservative against the bite of venomous creatures of every kind, and that the Hydrophobia is a disease not known among them.

A recent operation at one of our hospitals, by cutting out the part bitten three days after the bite, has brought to mind this simple remedy, which notwithstanding its being already, among many others, to be found interspersed among the volumes of your Magazine, cannot be too often repeated.

[December, 1784.]

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A Prisoner in *Italy*, bit by a mad dog, had an interval of sixteen hours, in which he drank easily, and without agitation, large quantities of various liquors.—*Of nine persons in the same prison bit by the same dog, one only was attacked by the hydrophobia*; and he neither the first nor the last bitten, nor the most wounded. He fell sick after four months and died hydrophobous and convulsed, but without delirium.

*A ready vomit in cases of poison.* A pinch of snuff, or a little powdered tobacco.

[January, 1785.]

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MR. URBAN,

Aug. 18.

YOUR well-known humanity will, I am sure, make room for the important remedy herewith communicated. I claim no other merit than that of being the instrument of its conveyance to your valuable Repository.

J. U. M. Minister of the English Church, Rotterdam.

*A Remedy, simple in its first Appearance, yet found by Experiment not only to be very efficacious, but even infallible, if early applied, against the tremendous Consequences of the Bite of a Mad Dog, made public for the common Benefit of Mankind.*

WHAT can be imagined more dreadful than a sudden transition from perfect health to one of the most miserable conditions to which man is liable?—When the venom of the bite of a mad dog begins to take effect, within a few days or weeks the unhappy sufferer may become hydrophobical, that is, dreading water, or any other liquid, in such a manner, that at the very sight of it he falls into terrible convulsions, and, notwithstanding he is tormented with an unquenchable thirst, it is impossible for him to swallow one single drop. By intervals he is quite out of his senses; and when the disease attacks him to a very high degree, he becomes raving mad, inclined to wound or bite any body who comes within his reach: and when he is in this miserable state, in which no relief can be administered, it has more than once been granted, as an act of mercy, to put an end to the life of such an unhappy man, by smothering him betwixt two beds.—What an awful scene of misery!

Many years ago, this remedy, which I here send you, has been known in the province of Groningen, and the adjacent districts, where my father was physician for several years, and had often occasion to make trial of it. After repeated and constant success, my father judged this remedy so beneficial to the human species, as to communicate it to the Medical Society at Amsterdam, under the motto, *Servandis civibus*, in a letter dated Groningen, Aug. 17, 1781, under the title of “Observations on the Canine Madness.”

The manner in which this remedy is to be prepared, and must be taken, the author describes in the following manner, *viz.* Take three yolks of hen’s eggs, and oil olive as much as will fill three half egg shells; put this together into a frying-pan, on a gentle fire; by continually stirring it with a knife, mix it well together, and continue doing this till it turns to a conserve, or thick jelly, which, when made, will fill a great tea-cup.

The manner of using it is as follows: He who is bitten must take (the sooner the better after the bite, the effect of the remedy being uncertain, if not applied within nine days) the above-mentioned doses two successive days, after he has fasted six hours, abstaining even from drink, which he likewise must do for six hours after he has taken it. When the patient has a wound, the wound must be scratched open twice a day, with a pen of fire-wood, for nine successive days, and every time the wound must be dressed with some of the same remedy. He who  
only



only has played with and caressed such a dog, or has been licked by the same, takes (for precaution's sake) only the above-mentioned dose for one time.

To an animal, of what kind soever, that is bitten, must be given, two successive days, a double portion of the same remedy; and neither meat nor drink, six hours before, nor six hours after.

The Author then continues a series of cases proving the efficacy of the prescription, but too numerous for the limits of this Pamphlet.

[*October*, 1791.]

Mr. URBAN,

*Jan.* 10.

THE world is much indebted to your benevolent correspondent Verus, for communicating a remedy against that most dreadful of all disorders, that which arises from the bite of a mad dog. Your *Miscellany* extends so widely, that the effects of it may happily be found by many. But it appears to be a remedy which it will be in vain to look for before the month of May; and after that, perhaps, few will be able to find the beetle described, and fewer will follow all the directions given for the management of it. It is indeed to be hoped that some medical gentleman in the country will have the public spirit (I may call it) to provide the medicine; those in town cannot do it themselves; from the places where only the beetles are to be found. But if there is a remedy at all times near at hand, which requires no skill in the composition, little art in the application, should not the gentleman, who happily thought of making the experiment, make the effect of it as public as possible? That there has been a complete cure after the hydrophobia had got to the most dreadful height; by giving oil internally, and rubbing the body all over with it, I am assured. If the very respectable physician who prescribed the application reads your book, I hope, for the sake of mankind, that he will send you a full account of the process.

If the absorption of the oil has such an effect in this case; if the absorption of salt has it, as described by your correspondent, allow me, who know nothing of medicine, to ask, whether the absorption of bark, from a warm bath wherein a proper quantity of bark had been infused, which could be applied immediately to the part affected, would not operate much more powerfully to stop the spreading of a mortification, than the internal exhibition of the bark can do, when it has so far to travel before it can reach the place of its destination?

Yours, &c. Q. X.

[*January*, 1792.]

Mr. URBAN,

February 14.

ATTACHED to the study of medicine from my earliest years, it is with infinite satisfaction I observe, that some of your ingenious and benevolent correspondents have lately come forward with hints and recipes for the prevention and cure of that most dreadful of all maladies, canine madness. But, though I have read, with the candour and attention so justly due to good intentions, all that has been advanced on this subject in your Magazine, and indeed most of the publications that have appeared for some years on that alarming disorder, I am free to confess, that I have seen no one completely who enters into my views of what may be considered as a national method of cure. I have long been of opinion, that all animal poisons operate nearly in a similar manner, though the effects they produce may be vastly different: and knowing that olive oil has been proved to be a specific for the bite of the viper, by a parity of reasoning I have ever concluded, that it must be the only certain antidote for the bite of a mad dog too. This I have suggested to several medical men, and others, at different times, with little success I own, because the most obvious things are generally the least regarded; and, never having had an opportunity of trying the full extent of this remedy myself, I should have felt much diffidence in announcing it to the publick, had not Q. X. informed us, "that he is assured oil has affected a complete cure, even after the hydrophobia had got to a dreadful height, by giving it internally, and rubbing the body with it." This is what I always flattered myself would be the case; and, without obtruding theory on your readers, when it can be confirmed by *practice*, I cordially unite with Q. X. in requesting the physician who prescribed the oil, and who had the happiness to witness its beneficial effects, would oblige the world with a full account of the process. If I am, even in the humblest degree, instrumental in obtaining this favor, or of calling the attention of the faculty to the investigation of the specific proposed, I shall esteem myself a benefactor to mankind.

Yours, &amp;c.

MORVA.

P.S. I think the Dutch specific valuable from the oil only it contains. The beetles, &c. are useless. Nature acts on the simplest plan; a *farrago* of medicines may impede, but seldom forwards, her operations to relieve.

[February, 1792.]

*A remarkable*

*A remarkable Case of HYDROPHOBIA.*

MR. URBAN,

June 16.

AS the following unfortunate case of that dreadful malady, the canine madness, may operate as a caution to practitioners, and prove beneficial to the publick, I beg the favor of you to insert it in your next, and you will oblige your humble servant,

G. NORTH ROBINSON, Surgeon,  
Chip-Norton, Oxfordshire.

Early on Friday morning the 13th instant, I was requested to see John Edwards (about 40 years of age), at Swerford, near Chip-Norton, Oxfordshire, who had received a bite on the hand from a mad dog upwards of eight months before. He was then attended by a young gentleman of the faculty, who, after the use of the knife and caustic, unfortunately undertook to cure or prevent the effects of the wound by means of salivation, in preference to the usual and most effectual remedy, the sea-water. The means made use of to promote a free discharge of saliva so far succeeded; but, as it ultimately and evidently appears, did neither correct nor exterminate the acrid virus, or cause of this deplorable disease.

On Monday the 9th instant, the patient felt a pain and tingling of the hand and arm, beginning in the part where the bite was received, and proceeding upwards towards the back part of the head. As he had no idea of the cause nor consequences, no notice was taken of this partial affection, as he considered it to be only rheumatic, and he with some difficulty pursued his usual avocations, until Wednesday the 11th instant, when apparent symptoms of hydrophobia were perceived, and the gentleman who before attended him was sent for. It was also thought necessary to consult Mr. Harris, of Hook-Norton, near Swerford, a gentleman who has the care of maniacal patients. Blood was drawn from the arm, the straight waistcoat put on, and a pill, containing one grain of opium and two grains of calomel, administered every four hours, but without quieting the convulsive motions of the whole system in the least degree. Under these terrible and unremitting affections the unfortunate patient laboured the whole of Thursday night; and, as before-mentioned, I was requested to see him on Friday morning. About seven o'clock I found him in the most agitated and commiserating state, with a very quick weak pulse, and an intolerable thirst, which at this time could not be alleviated by liquids. As air, and the sight of every kind of fluid, aggravated the disease, and

seemed



seemed to occasion an apprehension of suffocation, I tried both oil and milk, by means of a feather moistened with the same, but in vain. I then mixed a little powder-sugar with fresh butter, which was taken from a spoon with much avidity, and answered the purpose of moistening the mouth and fauces exceedingly well. I then scarified the diseased arm, above the wrist, and both the legs, with the scarificator, and applied blisters over the same, as an external stimulus, to derive, if possible, some of the morbid matter from the more sensitive and vital parts. I consulted with Mr. Harris, to alter the pills, and to administer them more often; upon which the patient took one of the pills as follows every hour during the violence of the paroxysms:

℞ Camphor 3 iſs Opii 3 ſs Calomel gr. x. ft. malsa in pil. xxx.

The good effects of this plan were evidently demonstrated by soon diminishing the irritability and violence of the convulsions; for, by two o'clock in the day, these commotions were in a great measure quieted, and the patient began to take thin liquids freely, as gruel, &c. and made considerable quantities of high-coloured urine at intervals. I saw him again in the evening, and found him very calm and quiet, and perfectly sensible, but extremely faint, and he seemed to entertain hopes of recovery. Upon this remission of the paroxysms, I thought no time should be lost in administering the bark, therefore ordered the following mixture:

℞ Pulv. Cort. Peruv. 3 ſs  
 ——— Rad. Serpent. Virg. 3j  
 Aq. Menthae Vulg. 3 viij  
 Sp. Sal. Marinae 3 j f. mist. sumat. Cochl. iij larga tertia quaque hora.

The patient languished until eight o'clock on Saturday morning, without any violent return of the paroxysms; so that he had a more easy and quiet passage out of this world than could be expected under the foregoing circumstances.

Though this case proved irrecoverably lost, from the patient's strength being so nearly exhausted, which he had not perfectly recovered since the process of salivation, and from the unremitting violence of the disease, until the opium, united with camphor, by being more often administered, abated the spasmodic convulsions of nature; yet, had this been sooner effected, I should have flattered myself with a more favourable issue.

N. B. As going to the sea, in accidents of this kind, is by some despised, and the use of the knife and caustick may, in many cases, be precarious, particularly in deep wounds of the

tendinous

tendinous or vascular parts,—query, to obviate such difficulties, without the extirpation of the limb, would not rubbing a moderate quantity of Ung. Hydrargyrus upon the injured part, together with an internal medicine, such as the mixture prescribed in the aforesaid case, be a very likely means to obviate or eradicate the cause of the disease?

[July, 1794.]

*Observations on Mr. ROBINSON'S remarkable Case of Hydrophobia.*

MR. URBAN,

Aug. 15.

HAVE been a member of the Royal College of Physicians about the space of a quarter of a century, during which period I have enjoyed a pretty large share of professional employment. Knowing, however, that there is frequently much difficulty to rise in practice early in life, it has always been my custom, whenever I discovered ingenious young men, either as physicians or apothecaries, to afford all that patronage which results from recommending them to their patients and friends upon every occasion in my power; and when I have deemed their practice reprehensible, which has rarely happened, to give my advice to them *privately*. I was induced to say so much from the perusal of a paper in your last Magazine, intituled, "*A remarkable case of Hydrophobia, by G. North Robinson, Surgeon, Chipporton, Oxfordshire,*" concerning the practice of "*a young gentleman of the faculty, who, after the use of the knife and the rustick, unfortunately undertook to cure, or prevent, the effects of the wound by means of salivation, in preference to the usual and most effectual remedy, the sea-water.*"

All the parties are perfectly strangers to me; but after noticing an misnomer in the title of Mr. Robinson's paper; as there is nothing *remarkable* in the case of the hydrophobia related, I will venture to declare, that the treatment of the young medical gentleman, though unsuccessful, was judicious, agreeable to all the knowledge we possess, which is still but little, of this dreadful malady. I will venture to appeal to any member of the College of Physicians in proof of it, and particularly to gentlemen who have written upon the bite of rabid animals, as Dr. Vaughan of Leicester, Dr. Hamilton of Ipswich, Dr. Percival of Manchester, Dr. Haygarth of Chester, Dr. James Sims of London; and I will predict that each will support my opinion.

Mr. Robinson gave bark, I suppose, as a tonic. Why was the patient bled if tonicks were indicated? The late Dr. Fothergill

gill did indeed recommend bleeding; but, if Mr. Robinson had read a late performance by Dr. Mease, on the bite of rabid animals, he would there have learnt the futility of sea-bathing, and of all his scarifications, and that the history of medicine does not afford one case of recovery after bleeding.

The following censure is unbecoming any man in giving the prognosis of a disease; and still more censurable respecting a disease of which we know nothing satisfactory as to the cure:

“ Though this case proved irrecoverably lost, from the patient’s strength being so nearly exhausted, which he had not perfectly recovered since the process of salivation, and from the unremitting violence of the disease, until the opium united with camphor, by being more often administered, abated the spasmodic convulsions of nature; yet had this been sooner effected, I should have flattered myself with a more favourable issue.”

If the patient’s strength was exhausted by salivation; why, I repeat, did Mr. Robinson bleed him? It was the last weakening medicine employed; and certainly it would have been more candid to have introduced the censure upon this rather than upon the distant application of mercury: besides, favourable relations have been given of mercury in the hydrophobia, but not one instance of recovery after bleeding. Fatality has been uniformly the result as far as I know.

In short, whoever the young medical gentleman may be, I approve his treatment, and consider the unfortunate event as very extraordinary; but instead of hasty censure, I deem the case worthy of future attentive investigation; and, should these remarks of mine ever be read by this gentleman, I should be very happy to have a minute detail of facts (my name being known to the Printer), not with a view to censure any individual, but, if possible, to clear up doubts in medical science, and to lead us to a rational and successful practice, of which, unhappily, we are yet ignorant.

MEDICUS LONDINENSIS.

[Aug. 1794.]

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### *Farther Observations on Mr. ROBINSON’S remarkable Case of Hydrophobia.*

WHEN I first read the relation of “ a remarkable case of *Hydrophobia*,” by Mr. Robinson, in your Magazine of July last, wherein he censured the practice of a brother surgeon for using the *knife*, *caustic*, and *mercury*, instead of what he terms “ the most effectual remedy of sea-bathing,” adding, that

“ he



he should have flattered himself with a more favourable issue had his plan been adopted," it conveyed to me so severe a stigma on the medical character of this surgeon, who, I have since learned, Mr. Haynes, that I thought it incumbent on me, as one of the latest editors of a treatise on *the bite of rabid animals*, to defend the conduct of a practitioner, whose treatment of the patient shewed him to be a gentleman of real medical science and sound judgment.

This defence was inserted in your Magazine for August; and entertained a hope that Mr. Robinson would have offered some acknowledgment, and thus ended the contest. On the contrary, in your Magazine for October, all apology is evaded, and recrimination adopted, observing, that *he thought it is duty to state the principal facts*;" hence, I suppose, meaning to insinuate, that his design was not to lessen the reputation of Mr. Haynes, but merely to promote public good; not to invade private character. To be sure, this is a curious, if not a novel, mode of promoting good, thus to attempt the history of a case which he either did not know, or has strangely mutilated. As the patient had been for nine preceding months under the care of his townsman and brother surgeon, Mr. Haynes, who really knew the whole history, to him application ought to have been made. If Mr. Robinson again means to favour the public with *principal facts*," for the honour of medical science it would be advisable first to learn the history of the case completely, otherwise, instead of medical *facts*, we shall have medical *romances*; one of which he seems to have furnished, as the public will find, when the whole history, which I am preparing with Mr. Haynes's assistance, is candidly related. It will then be seen that, although the symptoms of hydrophobia in this case were no way remarkable, but *ordinary*; the event, however, considering the delicious treatment of Mr. Haynes, and which will be approved by every medical man of science in the kingdom, appeared to *extraordinary*, though Mr. Robinson recriminates upon me for thinking an event *extraordinary* when the *hydrophobic* symptoms were not in the least remarkable. My ideas may be inconsistent; but this does by no means exculpate him from the insinuations against Mr. Haynes, which first excited my defence of his practice.

Mr. Robinson again recriminates upon me for censuring the practice of bleeding. I had no view of hurting this gentleman's character. I voluntarily defended an unknown but injured gentleman, who had been charged with *mal-treatment* of a patient *weakening* him with mereury; and yet this accuser declares that he afterward bled this patient: it was hence unavoidable, in defence of the accused, to observe, that Mr. Robinson

would not be justified in his assertion, that the patient *died from weakness*, originating from mercury, when he himself made use of a real weakening plan, that of bleeding or *scarifying*. If there was censure in what I said, it was courted by Mr. Robinson's own insinuation. Had I then known the true history of this case, I should have been probably more severe and pointed; for, I now find that, so far from mercury having *weakened* this patient, he had not taken any for at least *eight months prior to the hydrophobia*. How will Mr. Robinson explain this *principal fact* consistent with what *he thought his duty to the public*, and not his design to *stab private reputation*?

The only matter now to remark on Mr. Robinson's recriminations is, a charge, that I did not adduce one fact in favour of mercury. It was not necessary; but, if Mr. Robinson will make a friendly explanation for his conduct towards a brother surgeon, and really wishes for information respecting the exhibition of mercury in cases of the bites of rabid animals, I will comply with his request. I would, however, recommend him previously to read Dr. Mease on the Hydrophobia, with the authorities he adduces; Jesse Foot's Observations; Dr. Simmonds's Commentaries and Medical Facts; Sauvage sur la Rage; and, above all, the large 4to. volume of Mémoires de la Société Royale de Médecine; and he then will have no occasion to consult Medicus Londinensis, or any other physician, whether mercury has been used with success or not.

To conclude, Mr. Urban, having got possession of the genuine history of this case of hydrophobia, I purpose, in a future Magazine, to communicate what means ought to be pursued to prevent the rabies after the bite of a rabid animal, as well as the treatment of hydrophobia, whenever such a melancholy instance shall occur; and, unfortunately, it has of late often occurred. And, as your work is generally read, and as generally esteemed, I flatter myself these directions may be copied into other periodical publications, and stuck upon the door of every church in the kingdom; for, to extend what little knowledge we possess on these subjects, that more may be acquired, is the wish of

[Nov. 1794.]

MEDICUS LONDINENSIS.

MR. URBAN,

Nov. 15.

VERAX & BENEVOLUS was well aware that what he advanced, on the hydrophobia and canine madness, was totally opposite to the historical writers on that subject, and the present generally-received opinions about it. For that rea-

son,

on, and in order to remove those prejudices, and relieve many distressed minds, he thought it a duty to mankind to bring forward what he has done; having neither leisure or inclination for controversy, and wishing to communicate comfort. But, in order to confirm and support what he has already suggested, he recommends to such as may be fully satisfied, or have remaining doubts, to shew the short paragraph he has written upon that subject to the physicians of the first character in their district, and to the physicians of the public County Hospitals in their vicinity, for the result of their observations and experience; being careful to discriminate what has come under their own immediate view, and correct knowledge from all accounts and relations from others. There is great reason to believe that the dreadful cases, so frequently related in the public papers, originate from persons interested in patent medicines for this complaint; it is a natural policy, and must have allowance made for it.

V. &amp; B.

[November, 1794.]

Mr. URBAN,

Oct. 20.

YOUR cool and candid professional correspondent, who states himself to "have been many years in extensive practice in a populous city, and a principal attendant in a large county hospital," would not, I apprehend, have transgressed the limits of your Publication if he had been a little more diffuse on the subject, and had told us to what other cause the death of a person bitten, or reputed to have been bitten, by a mad dog, is to be ascribed than to the canine bite, but which he has not thought proper even to suggest. Unless my recollection fails me, Boerhaave considers it as a point not admitting of any doubt, and asserts, that there is no certain preservative against this dreadful distemper, and few (if any) instances to be depended upon of the recovery of a person after his being afflicted with the hydrophobia, or dread of water. If your correspondent can throw any farther light on this subject, I doubt not but every one will attend to it with pleasure; but at present, I must confess, it appears to me nothing more than a vague assertion unsupported by the least shadow of reason, and much too serious and important to be relied upon without good confirmation. Should he wish, therefore (as he seems to anticipate), "to afford ease and comfort to many individuals," let him transmit you another letter, and set forth reasons and examples to ground what he affirms in such general terms.

Having,



Having, within this short time, repeatedly heard many people cry out owing to the pain occasionally caused by their being afflicted with corns, and having as often heard them attribute it to the rain, which has descended so copiously of late, I take the liberty of asking some of your curious Literati, whether the aquatic meteor has such an effect upon these callosities of the skin as to add to the pain; though the person afflicted does not even cross his or her threshold? And farther, whether a person much troubled with these tubercles (as almost universally contended, *præsertim ac senibus, ac anibus*) is aware of the approach of a storm from the additional torture which it is said to occasion? It being so generally allowed, I presume there is something more in it than mere prejudice.

P. H.

[December, 1794.]

Mr. URBAN

L—C—Street, Jan. 12.

FEW things, I apprehend, are more frequently talked of, or more generally believed, than the dreadful consequences supposed to proceed from the bite of mad animals, particularly of dogs. In antient times, as well as modern, among all ranks of mankind, and however they may have differed as to the methods of treating the malady, the idea, that the *hydrophobia* is communicable by a bite, seems to have obtained universal consent; and yet the following circumstance has occasioned a considerable degree of doubt in my mind.

Some months ago, I fell into conversation with a learned friend upon this subject, at a place of public resort at the sea-side. A medical relation of mine in London had a little time before attended a maid-servant of one of his patients, from the first appearance of illness, until the moment of her death in the London hospital. She remembered to have been bitten six weeks before by a cat. I am not myself in the medical line; but I was relating the circumstances of this case to my friend, who, after hearing me with a polite kind of impatience, said, “Sir, I believe if you had had a complete opportunity of tracing, to the source, the cause of this young woman’s disorder, the story of the bite would have receded from your search. The disorder is unhappily, too frequent; but the college of physicians as a body (the men the best qualified to judge) are not convinced, notwithstanding all that hath been said, that it can be communicated by the bite of any animal in any state of madness. My own private opinion is, that it cannot.”

I remember that my answer was, " Doctor, I should not have been much more astonished, if you had told me that the small pox was not communicable by inoculation! Why is not this idea communicated to the world?" " Because," answered my friend, " the world at this time would not believe it; and, being a negative proposition, the truth of it would be difficult to prove in a contest; but I have little doubt that at some time the present opinion will be exploded."

The manner in which this opinion was delivered obliges me to conceal my friend's name; he is, however, a regular physician, educated at Oxford, from whence he took his degree; he studied abroad, and has been in full practice near sixteen years; stands high in rank, as a member of the college, has read the *Gulstonian* lecture, and is very generally considered to have a great share of knowledge, and to be free from all affectation of singularity, or whim.

I am completely unqualified to judge of this matter; yet I venture to send you this letter, because, whether the opinion be right or wrong is a question of very considerable importance to mankind. I have myself so high a respect for every thing my friend says, the result of many years knowledge of him, that, notwithstanding the fixed idea I had with the generality entertained, yet his words have created a considerable degree of doubt.

Dr. Mead, I remember, although it is many years since I saw his celebrated work on Poisons, writes very seriously upon the effects and musical cure of the bite of the *Tarantula*; the whole of which is, by the present generation, known to have been founded in imagination. If my learned friend is right, the bite of a mad dog may have the same fate with posterity. At least I flatter myself that I am deserving well of the publick in sending you this, and requesting you to honour it with a place in your respectable work.

Yours, &c.

[Jan. 1795.]

I. P.

Mr. URBAN,

Feb. 6.

[IN answer to your correspondent, I. P. who, like a man of benevolence and candour, wishes for farther information, in a matter important to the comfort of many, I must say, what I truly think founded upon observation from practice and experience, that no such disease, as canine madness, ever was in the human species, similar to the description now received, or the description handed down from physical writers. But errors, however

however sanctioned by length of time, or respectable names, it is to be hoped, by liberal enquiry, and as liberal communications to the public, the present medical and experienced practitioners will explode and bring forward, and in this matter more especially. Then, Mr. Urban, will your useful and reputable Publication have rendered an invaluable service to mankind, by being the principal channel in which this matter was first stated and brought forward for investigation. What I mean to advance is, that the bite of the mad dog cannot produce, in the human species, a similar disease, attended with barking, foaming at the mouth, hydrophobia, and generally followed by the death of the patient. In a former paper, in your publication, I advanced a doctrine, approaching to what I have now brought forward; I also replied to a sort of an objectional paper against it; this is a third paper under the same signature. As I have before hinted, I have not leisure for controversy, I write under an adopted signature; but what I advance, let it be tried and examined in the mode proposed in the second paper. At a future time and leisure, I mean to propose a plan to ascertain the matter beyond doubts and controversy.

VERAX ET BENEVOLUS.

[February, 1795.]

MR. URBAN,

Southwell, Feb. 8.

THE many absurd and ridiculous opinions on the subject of hydrophobia, which have appeared in some numbers of your Magazine, scarcely merit the trouble of confutation, inasmuch as they have not contained any sentiment bearing the most distant appearance of argument founded on rational principles; yet, as they may possibly be the conductors of erroneous ideas, and consequently of injudicious practice, they so far deserve our attention. One correspondent denies the existence of such a complaint as the hydrophobia. Another condemns the most judicious treatment of the disease; and at the same time, illiberally attempts to condemn the character of his coadjutor: and I felt well pleased that so able a pen, as that of Dr. Lettsom, had undertaken the kind office of vindicating the practice of the young injured surgeon. I shall pass over the subjects of the letters of Mr. Robinson and Verax et Benevolus; and shall now only notice the epistle of your correspondent J. P. which contains an opinion equally absurd, and equally difficult to support. Your correspondent brings forward the sentiments of his friend:

“ A



“ A physician regularly educated at Oxford, whence he took his degree; he studied abroad, and has been in full practice near sixteen years; stands high in rank, as a member of the College; has read the Gulstonian lecture; and is very generally considered to have a great share of knowledge, and to be free from all affectation of singularity, or whim.”

Your correspondent, relating to this gentleman the circumstance of the young woman who fell a sacrifice to the hydrophobia in the London Hospital, received this *judicious* answer:

“ Sir, I believe, if you had a complete opportunity of tracing to the sources the cause of this young woman’s disease, the story of the bite would have receded from your search. The disorder is unhappily too frequent; but the College of Physicians, as a body (the men the best qualified to judge,) are not convinced, notwithstanding all that hath been said, that it can be communicated by the bite of ANY animal in any state of madness. My opinion is, that it cannot.”

To confute the opinion of this gentleman will not require the sagacity of Hippocrates, or the discernment of Galen; and the anxious hope, that this gentleman will condescend to favour the readers of the Gentleman’s Magazine with his theory on this subject, is the chief inducement to the now taking up my pen. If he would take the trouble of perusing a paper which I published on this subject in the New London Medical Journal\*, he may save me the unnecessary task of attempting to remove his error, disquisitions on such matters being by no means pleasant to the generality of the readers of the Gentleman’s Magazine: I shall therefore content myself, for the present, by submitting to his attention some very few observations. The specific hydrophobic virus may be communicated as the specific virus of the small-pox is, by inoculation; and it is observable that, when the small-pox is inoculated, if no inflammation appears about the puncture, or till after the inflammation appears, there is no small-pox ever comes forth; so the same is observable in the bite of a mad dog; though the wound readily heals sometimes, yet it constantly breaks out afresh, and inflames before any of the terrible symptoms appear. The smallest quantity of saliva, and that either fresh or dry, produces this disease. The infection may lay dormant many months; but, in general, it appears in three or four weeks; and, if in six weeks no sign of disorder manifests itself, the patient is usually, though frequently erroneously, concluded to be safe. Some have observed, that the nearer the place bitten is to the salivary glands, the sooner the symptoms appear. In order to communicate the infection, a wound

\* See New London Medical Journal de Hydrophobiâ, vol. II. part II. p. 179.

seems to be no more necessary than it is in the small-pox. To man it is communicated by the saliva only; but dogs have received it by being in the kennel where mad dogs have been before, the specific miasmata still floating in the atmosphere, and being imbibed by the lungs. These animals cannot receive the hydrophobic infection by the contact of saliva on the skin only, which must be attributed to the opacity of the cuticle, and the imperspirable pores of the cutis. According to Boerhaave, the signs of madness in a dog are as follow:

“ Incipientis rabiei signa sunt hæc imprimis, quibus tetrae his cautelæ nititur; fiunt tristes, solitarii, se abscondentes, muti quoad latratum, murmurantes tamen, cibum potumque omnem adversantes, in ignotos quoslibet et viati et irruentes, heri tamen adhuc memores et reverentes, aures cuadamque demittentis, somnolentorum instar incedentes: hætenus primus gradus mali adest: morsusque tum exceptus periculosus quidem, non verò pessimus est: dein anhelare, linguam exserere, spumam plurimam emittere, hiare, nunc segniter, ut semisopiti, nunc subito celeriter incedere, nec rectâ semper viâ, mox ne herum quidem amplius agnoscere, oculos habere demissos, lachrymosos, pulverulentos, linguam plumbeo habere colore, subito gracilescere, insanire, furere; hic secundus est gradus mali quam vix triginta horis ferunt, quin moriantur morsus hoc tempore fere insanibilis quò verò animal vehementius furit, diutius malo laboravit, morti proprius est, eo morsus lethalior, acutior et symptomata citissime creans violentissima et contra.”

[*March, 1795.*]

MR. URBAN,

*Suffolk, Jan. 7.*

A REPORT prevails, of a person named John Ellis, near Leckford, in Sussex, having died hydrophobic between two and three years ago, who, it is added, received the infection from a cow, and without the intervention of a wound. An examination into the truth of this report will be of material consequence in elucidating some part of the pathology of this abstruse disease. If any of your Sussex readers can give intelligence respecting this fact, it will greatly oblige the publick as well as the writer of this article. Such an extraordinary occurrence cannot fail to be remembered, not only by people in the place, but by others residing at a considerable distance. A circumstantial account of the case, through the medium of your useful repository, or a contradiction of the rumour, is earnestly requested as soon as it can be conveniently made,

S. T.

[*January, 1797.*]

MR.

Mr. URBAN,

Nov. 12.

HAVING frequently read in your Magazine observations on the prevention and cure of Hydrophobia, I beg the favour of you to insert the following account of the disease as it appears in dogs, taken from the Medical Commentaries, vol. XIX. p. 90. It was drawn up by Mr. Meynell; whose experience enables him to communicate to the world much valuable information on that topick.

J. R.

“ The first symptoms of canine madness in dogs is, I believe, a failure of appetite in a small degree; I mean, that the dog does not eat his usual food with his usual eagerness; though, if better food be offered him, he may eat it greedily. A disposition to quarrel with other dogs, comes on early in the disease. A total loss of appetite generally succeeds; though I have seen dogs eat and lap water the day before their death, which generally happens between seven and ten days after the first symptom has appeared. A mad dog will not, I believe, cry out on being struck, or shew any sign of fear on being threatened, though he will, very late in the disease, appear sensible of kind treatment.

“ I have never known a mad dog shew symptoms of the disease in less time after the bite than ten days; and I have known many instances of dogs having died mad as late as eight months after the bite. I think the symptoms generally appear between three and eight weeks after the bite.

“ A mad dog, in the height of the disorder, has a disposition to bite all other dogs, animals, or men. When not provoked, he usually attacks only such as come in his way; but, having no fear, it is peculiarly dangerous to strike at or provoke him.

“ Mad dogs appear to be capable of communicating the affection early in the disorder, and as soon as they begin to quarrel with or bite other dogs.

“ The eyes of mad dogs do not look red or fierce, but dull, and have a peculiar appearance, which is easily distinguished from such as have been used to observe it, but not easy to be described.

“ Mad dogs never bark, but occasionally utter a most dismal and plaintive howl, expressive of extreme distress; and which every who have once heard can never forget. So that dogs may be known to be going mad, without being seen, when only this dismal howl is heard.

“ Mad dogs do not foam or froth at the mouth, but their lips and tongue appear dry and foul, or slimy.

“ Though mad dogs generally refuse both food and drink in the latter stage of the disorder, yet they *never shew any abhorrence*



or dread of water ; will pass through it without difficulty, and lap it eagerly to the last. But it is remarkable, that though they lap water for a long time, and eagerly, and do not seem to experience any uneasiness from it, yet they do not appear to swallow a single drop of it ; for, however long they may continue lapping it, no diminution of quantity can be perceived.

“ I am persuaded, that this disorder never originates from hot weather, putrid provisions, or from any other cause but the bite ; for, however dogs may have been confined, however fed, or whatever may have been the heat of the season, I never knew the disorder commence without being able to trace it to that cause ; and it was never introduced into the kennel but by the bite of a mad dog.

“ The hairs of a mad dog do not stand erect more than those of other dogs. I do not know that there is any thing remarkable in the manner of a mad dog’s carrying his head or his tail. I do not believe that dogs are more afraid of a mad dog than they are of any other dog that seems disposed to attack them.

“ There are two kinds of madness, both of which I have known to originate from the bite of the same dog. Among huntsmen, one is known by the name of raging, the other by that of dumb, madness. In dumb madness, the nether jaw drops, and is fixed, the tongue hangs out of the mouth, and slaver drops from it. In raging madness, the mouth is shut, except when the dog snaps or howls, and no moisture drops from it.”

To this account Dr. Dunean adds the following observations :

“ We have thus presented to our readers, in Mr. Meynell’s own words, his principal remarks concerning the *rabies* in dogs. These, we apprehend, if properly attended to, will afford more exact, and more authentic information, than has hitherto been given concerning it. While they serve to correct many mistaken ideas which have generally prevailed, drawn from supposed appearances which have no existence, they, at the same time, point out sufficient marks by which this affection in dogs, even at its commencement, may be distinguished ; and, whenever a failure of appetite, and an uncommon disposition to quarrel with other dogs, appear, the animal should certainly be secured as soon as it can with safety be effected. If these symptoms be the first stage of this disorder, the dulness and peculiar appearance of the eyes, the want of barking, and the dismal and plaintive howl, will soon fully characterize the disease ; and thus accidents of the most dreadful and melancholy nature may be prevented.”

[ November, 1798. ]

Mr.

Mr. URBAN,

Tenby, Jan. 20.

**H**APPILY having purchased and perused Dr. Robert Hamilton's two admirable octavo volumes on *Canine Rabies* (a copy of which ought to be in every parish throughout the British Empire), I, trusting to your humanity, send you for publication what appears to me particularly essential in that most excellent medical work.

Canine Madness is too often incredibly infectious; therefore, touch not the wounded part with a finger, nor the slaver, nor caught on which or where slaver has fallen. To touch any part of the rabid animal, and its breath, is dangerous. More than one instance is recorded of aprons torn by mad dogs;—the females who sewed up the rents bit off the sewing-thread, and became mad.—Instantly let a young wholesome person spit in a saucer, tea-cup, wine glass, or in a spoon; with this saliva bathe the wounds well, but not using naked fingers: and let the patient quickly make warm soap-suds, and wash therein dirty linen, thus bathing well the wounded parts, a long time steeping them therein and therewith. If the cheek be bitten through, put into the mouth a sponge soaked in salt-water; and next, wash externally with salted water; which wipe immediately with fine rags, but destroy these immediately afterwards. Directly after this, scarify and cup the wounded parts, or rather cut totally out the wounded flesh. Mr. Hunter, on examining the flesh cut out, found it quite perforated; this proved that the fang had penetrated deeper. Thus, even after the excision, wash the wound with strong caustic, as *kali purum*, *arsenic*; remove the eschar with a spatula; then, and over, re-iterate the caustic, and remove eschars successively, till you reach a depth assuredly sufficient; for a blister discovered a very deep ulcer after the part had been scarified, and caustic volatile alkali had been repeatedly dropped on the part. Ligatures at first may impede the progress of the venom; but the virus remains some time local and stationary, and apparently dormant; but this deadly ferment is secretly at work on the adjacent juices, till at length a second inflammation of the wounded part ensues; and then the absorbent lymphatic vessels rapidly convey the virus, now become morbid, through the whole frame. The first inflammation immediately after the wound is made is only such as arises from the prick of a thorn, or a scratch by a pin.

Roux, after dilating, and suffering the wound to bleed much, thrust with a wooden probe to the bottom of the wound *butter of antimony*, as a caustic, and spread it all over the wound and adjacent skin; and over all applied a blister; lastly, he inserted peas, to preserve a deep ulcer during some nine weeks. SABATIER applied *butter of antimony*, and kept the wound open long.

WESTERN

WESTERN dilated the wound, and applied *mercurial ointment* mixed with *turpentine*; lastly *Peruvian bark in wine* much, during eight days. [I prefer Roux.] Some cauterize the part.

The excision and caustic should be renewed, if ever the second or morbid inflammation of the wounded part ensues; repeat the caustic, and removals of escars, as before; and subsequent blister. Next blister the throat, and top of the spine; embrocate the spine and pit of the stomach; use nitrous acids; and, as tonics, use chalybeates, bitters; arsenic, oxygene gas. So on; until *Hydrophobia*: then the Doctors pronounce the case desperate! [But, as a fever highly inflammatory now arises, and the patient is in a hopeless state, bleed him excessively, and often, in quick succession; but corroborate the spirits, to support life. A Huntsman, thus treated, recovered, as out of a delirium.]

Yours, &c.

WM. WILLIAMS.

[January, 1805.]

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MAY 16. A young girl, about 11 years of age, died this day at *Selby* in *Yorkshire*, of *hydrophobia*, in consequence of being bitten by a dog which took off from *Strenfall* about two months ago. [May, 1805.]

THE END.





